

Tung Feng



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What Happened Last Week

Acting President Chris Howe opened the meeting by congratulating the gathering for an excellent turnout. It was good to see so many members dressed in casual clothes, thereby supporting the community Dress Casual Day.

Rtn. Bill then introduced Visiting Rotarians:

PP. Joop Litmath HK

PP. Jim Hayes Downtown Saginaw, Michigan, USA

and Guests:

Lawrence Lampport, his son, and

Miss Ma from Beijing.

A banner was presented to Jim Hayes in return for an IOU.

PP. Edwin Tao reported that he had returned that morning from a trip to San Francisco.

PP. Joop addressed the gathering on the subject of Membership Development. Total Rotary membership was going down and President King wanted a reversal. Our District Governor wanted every Club in our District to have a net gain of five members by the end of this Rotary year. Apparently, HKI East had started the year with 45 members, and increased to a net gain of 46 by October. HKI East could consider accepting lady members. In his club their 12 lady members did 90% of the work.

PP Hubert announced that his company would be listed on the Stock Exchange on 9th Nov. Any member who wanted to buy shares could see him after the meeting.

The Sgt. At Arms report was given by Sec. Eddy Wong, who reported \$1400 HK for the red box and 24 members present.

Rtn. Heron then introduced the speaker who was D. Turbileg, Head of the Political and Economic Section of the Consulate of Mongolia in Hong Kong. His talk was entitled: "General information about the Beautiful Country of Mongolia with a focus on Business Opportunities".

Outer Mongolia was an independent country of 1.5 m sq kilometers. It is the 18th largest country in world and has the highest average altitude. It was landlocked, being 700 km from the Yellow Sea. It had four seasons with a harsh winter and hot summer. Its population was 2.4 m. Ghenghis Khan unified the country in 1206, and in the following 50 yrs it was extended and expanded. In 1227 he divided it into four amongst his sons and grandsons.

After years of internecine dispute, the Manchus occupied the southern part. In 1911, it was declared an independent Mongolian People Republic. Russian influence eliminated ownership and religious freedom. It developed its own language, based on the cyrillic script.



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

In 1961 it entered the UN and maintained close ties with socialist countries. After the collapse of the Eastern Bloc in 1989, it introduced free elections and a new coalition government was set up. The economy moved from central planning to a market orientation. Mongolia has developed economic relationships with over 160 countries.

Mongolia is already a member state of WTO. The private sector holds 70% of the GDP. It has its own constitution which protects ownership, religious freedoms and human rights. It has legal protection of foreign investment.

Mongolia has huge potential mineral reserves. In the first half of this year, 1600 countries invested \$ US440m into the economy in the form of JVs and solely owned enterprises. The country had also signed multinational and bilateral agreements with 32 countries.

HK businesses had invested \$US22 million this year, and altogether had 22 JVs and 11 solely owned businesses. Next year there would be 3 charter flights for businessmen to visit the country.

In response to questions from the floor, he added that despite the Gobi Desert, the country had many beautiful areas and was rich in flora and fauna. It also had rich mineral reserves.

In response to a question from Rtn. Bill Lampert, he said that the population was low because the people worked hard to promote the country. He declined a kind offer from Bill to assist in remedying that situation.

Thanks were given in the traditional manner by PP, Edwin Tao, who reminisced that Senyang was looted by the Russians one week after the dropping of the second atomic bomb on Japan.

Acting President Chris closed the meeting with a Toast to RI coupled with the Rotary Club of Downtown Saginaw, Michigan.



With all these news about Anthrax, perhaps you all should read what I have found on it. The whole point is it is nothing new but we must not panic but be more careful when coming in contact with this form of bioterrorism. Be more careful about opening suspicious letters and packages from strangers.

John Kwok

1. What is anthrax?

Anthrax is an acute infectious disease caused by the spore-forming bacterium *Bacillus anthracis*. It most commonly occurs in mammals such as cattle, sheep, goats, camels and antelopes, but can also occur in humans when they are exposed to infected animals or tissue from infected animals.

2. How common is anthrax and who can get it?

Anthrax is most common in agricultural regions where it occurs in animals. Humans infected with anthrax usually have been exposed to infected animals or their products through their occupations. Workers who are exposed to dead animals and animal products from other countries where anthrax is more common may become infected with *Bacillus anthracis*.

3. How is anthrax transmitted?

Anthrax infection can occur in three forms: cutaneous (skin), inhalation, and gastrointestinal. Spores can live in the soil for years, and humans can become infected with anthrax by handling products from infected animals or by inhaling anthrax spores from contaminated animal products. Eating undercooked meat from infected animals also can spread the disease. It is rare to find infected animals in the United States.

4. What are the symptoms of anthrax?

They vary depending on how the disease was contracted, but symptoms usually occur within seven days.

- **Cutaneous:** About 95 percent of anthrax infections occur when the bacterium enters a cut or abrasion on the skin, such as when handling contaminated wool, hides, leather or hair products of infected animals. It begins as a raised itchy bump that resembles an insect bite, but soon turns into a painless ulcer, usually one to three centimeters in diameter, usually with a black center in the middle. Lymph glands in the adjacent area may swell. About 20 percent of untreated cases result in death. The employee at NBC who contracted anthrax has cutaneous anthrax.
- **Inhalation:** Initial symptoms may resemble a common cold, but lead to severe breathing problems and shock after several days. Inhalation anthrax is usually fatal. An employee of a Florida tabloid publishing company contracted inhalation anthrax and died.
- **Intestinal:** This form of anthrax may follow the consumption of contaminated meat and is characterized by an acute inflammation of the intestinal tract. Initial signs include nausea, loss of appetite, vomiting and fever, followed by abdominal pain, vomiting blood and severe diarrhea. Between 25 percent and 60 percent of cases are fatal.

5. Where is anthrax usually found?

Anthrax is global. It is more common in developing countries or countries without veterinary public health programs. Certain regions of the world (South and Central America, Southern and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Middle East) report more anthrax in animals than elsewhere.

6. Can anthrax be spread from person to person?

Direct, person-to-person spread of anthrax is extremely unlikely. It is not contagious.

7. Is there a treatment for anthrax?

Doctors can prescribe effective antibiotics. To be effective, treatment should be initiated early. If left untreated, the disease can be fatal.

8. Is there a way to prevent infection?

In countries where anthrax is common and vaccination levels of animal herds are low, humans should avoid contact with livestock and animal products and not eat meat that has not been properly prepared.

Also, an anthrax vaccine has been licensed for use in humans. It is reported to be 93 percent effective.

9. What is the anthrax vaccine?

It is manufactured and distributed by BioPort Corp. of Lansing, Michigan. It is a cell-free filtrate vaccine, which means it contains no dead or live bacteria in the preparation. Anthrax vaccines intended for animals should not be used in humans.

10. Who should get vaccinated against anthrax?

The CDCP's advisory committee on immunization practices recommends vaccination for the following:

- People who work directly with the organism in the laboratory
- People who work with imported animal hides or furs in areas where standards are insufficient to prevent exposure to anthrax spores.
- People who handle potentially infected animal products in high-incidence areas. Incidence is low in the United States, but veterinarians who travel to work in other countries where incidence is higher should consider getting vaccinated.)
- Military personnel deployed to areas with high risk for exposure to the organism (as when it is used as a biological warfare weapon).

Pregnant women should be vaccinated only if absolutely necessary.

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Subject: Divorce?

An elderly man in Phoenix calls his son in New York and says, "I hate to ruin your day, but I have to tell you that your mother and I are divorcing; forty-five years of misery is enough. "Pop, what are you talking about?" the son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other any longer," the old man says. "We're sick of each other, and I'm sick of talking about this, so you call your sister in Chicago and tell her," and he hangs up.

Frantic, the son calls his sister, who explodes on the phone.

"They're not getting divorced if I have anything to do about it," she shouts, "I'll take care of this."

She calls Phoenix immediately, and screams at the old man, "You are NOT getting divorced. Don't do a single thing until I get there. I'm calling my brother back, and we'll both be there tomorrow. Until then, don't do a thing, DO YOU HEAR ME?" and hangs up.

The old man hangs up his phone and turns to his wife.

"Okay," he says, "They're coming for Thanksgiving and paying their own fares...Now what do we tell them for Christmas?"



"There! that was a fast divorce!"

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**ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 12:30 p.m. AT
EXCELSIOR HOTEL, CAUSEWAY BAY**

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Rtn Bill with his guest Ms Ma from Beijing and his son Lawrence.



Rtn Andrew Shek, PP Hubert & PP Andrew.



SAA Laurence, Rtn Jason, and PP John.



Hon. Secretary Eddy, visiting Rtn from Saginaw, and PP Joop (Hong Kong).



Rtn Kenny, Rtn Alex and a hands-up Rtn Malcolm.



Rtn Heron, PP John Luk and PP George.



Acting Pres. Chris exchanged banners with Visiting Rotarian from Saginaw, Michigan.



Acting Pres. Chris addressing us in his casual day shirt.



PP Edwin joined the luncheon (straight from the airport this morning) after returning from San Francisco.



PP Ramesh, PDG YK, and Rtn Tony.



Speaker – Mr Turbileg from Consulate of Mongolia.



Group photo of October 24, 2001.