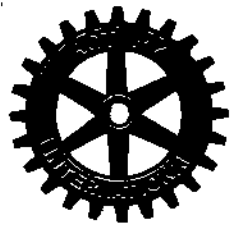




東風 Tung Feng



VOL. 50 No. 16

23rd October, 2002

What Happened Last Week

Pres. Chris started today's session by noting Uncle Peter's "unorthodox absence" due to his other Rotarian duty at the airport. Then, Pres. Chris joked that PP. Hubert got the best duty today when he was asked to introduce the visiting guests, since there happened to be no guest showing up! Today's birthday boys were Rtms. Danny and Francis - PP. John Kwok was invited to lead the chorus and Pres. Chris presented the "young" birthday boys with the club's birthday gifts.

Subsequently, PP. John Kwok reminded members who had previously signed up for the District Conference in Macau to turn up on October 19 at the pier. He mentioned to members that the club would be taking up the registration fee, but not the hotel fee. Rt. Andy acted as the Sergeant-at-Arms and announced a collection of HK\$2000.00, a job well done!

Pres. Chris then asked Rt. Jason to introduce the speaker of the day, Mr. Paul Etherington. Paul was the owner of Kayak-and-hike.com (also the topic of his talk today) whose primary objective was to introduce to visitors and travelers the scale and beauty of Hong Kong country parks through guided trips, such as, hiking, kayaking and mountain biking. Paul had been in Hong Kong for 25 years. Upon completing his education at King George V School, Paul briefly went back to the UK to become a Royal Yachting Association's windsurfing instructor. When he returned to Hong Kong, Paul worked in several areas of the water sports industry - instructing, racing, retailing and manufacturing. Paul lived in the Sai Kung Country Park, enjoying the outdoor environment on his days off, whilst training for overseas windsurfing and mountain biking competitions. Paul's last job was in the city, which, in turn, triggered him to start his own company in showing Hong Kong's visitors the "other side of Hong Kong."

Our featured speaker, Paul, then began his presentation by citing how incredibly dynamic and vibrant was the city of Hong Kong. He suggested that people who lived in the exciting and busy environment of Hong Kong would want to strike a balance in life and get an occasional chance to be away from the hustle and bustle of the city life. Thus, by the "other side of Hong Kong", Paul



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

meant going to areas within Hong Kong, but away from the major developments, air-conditioning, pollutions and crowds. Paul remarked that many people who lived in Hong Kong had heard about the country parks, but never visited them.

According to Paul, Hong Kong was very fortunate in the 70's to have Sir Murray Maclehoose as the Governor, who then appreciated the need to protect Hong Kong's remote areas from other development, and subsequently, established a Country Park Scheme for the city. By 1979, 21 country parks were designated throughout Hong Kong. Today, there were 23 parks, along with four Marine Parks and one Marine reserve; thus, totaling an area of 43,000 hectares. Hence, out of the total area of 1098 sq. km. for Hong Kong, 20% was urban, 40% was rural and unprotected, and the remaining 40% was protected by the Country Parks Ordinance. Consequently, Hong Kong's international visitors were generally only seeing 30% of what the city had to offer. In other words, the visitors had no idea that Hong Kong was also so "green."

Paul continued saying that Hong Kong had amazing volcanic geology dating back millions of years ago, which, in turn, had provided the people with beautiful rugged areas to enjoy and learn, while hiking (such as in trails like Maclehoose and Wilson,) bird-watching (such as in Mai Po Wetlands operated by WWF,) kayaking (such as in the 400 million years old Hoi Ha Double,) dolphin-watching (such as in Sha Chau Marine Park,) mountain biking, diving and heli-hiking. Paul showed impressive spectrum of photos depicting the places that he had been citing during his talk. He further mentioned that Hong Kong had 48 peaks and mountains over 1,400 feet, three of which are over 2,800 feet. The tallest mountain was Tai Mo Shan, over 3,000 feet. There were also scores of white-sand beaches, 230 islands, 52 species of coral, 320 species of birds, 100 species of dragonflies, 200 different butterflies, and approximately 2,500 species of trees and plants.

In promoting Hong Kong's country parks, Paul mentioned that the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) did a splendid job of promoting and maintaining the precious green parks of Hong Kong. AFCD had established many visitor centers in the parks, where visitors can easily locate maps and essential details. There were also videos of the Country and Marine parks commissioned by the AFCD, which Paul felt, should be useful to visiting tourists, businessmen and journalists. These natural sites and available outdoor activities could be reasons for many visitors to want to stay longer in Hong Kong.

Most of Paul's clients were either travelers who were looking for the unexpected, hidden places and wanting to have different experiences from the average visitors; or young professionals who wanted to escape from the city's noise and mess, seeking places of peace and clean air. Paul had also taken TV crews from all over the places to outdoor trips that may have changed their perception of Hong Kong. In time, he had hoped that the journalists' reports would be seen by people all over the world, thereby, changing their views of Hong Kong. Paul also noted seeing local tour groups of 600 people or more in one afternoon, venturing into the country and marine parks on Sundays. Paul ended his talk by cautioning that while carrying out outdoor activities, people should follow guidelines established by various world organizations in protecting the precious and fragile "green" areas of Hong Kong.

Members thanked Paul in the usual Rotarian manners, and Pres. Chris then ended the session by proposing a toast to the Rotary Club of HK Island East.

Rotary Information

We are proud to note that past RI director and past RI vice president Gary Huang, formerly our last district governor of district 345 (comprised of Hong Kong/Taiwan and Macau) was among the nominating committee for selection of RI President-nominee for the RY 2004-2005. The nominating committees had chosen Glenn E. Estess, Sr. of the Rotary Club of Shades Valley, Ala. USA as president of Rotary International in 2004-5 when Rotary International celebrates its centennial in 2005, He will become the official nominee on 1st December.

Estess is the chairman of the Membership Development and Retention Committee. He served as RI vice president in 1991-92, RI director, Rotary Foundation trustee, governor of District 6860, and chairman of the Audit and Operations Review Committee. He has been a Rotarian since 1960.

He has retired from Glenn Estess Associates, where he was chief executive officer. Estess was born in Pike County, Miss. U.S.A., and graduated with a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Tulane University in New Orleans.

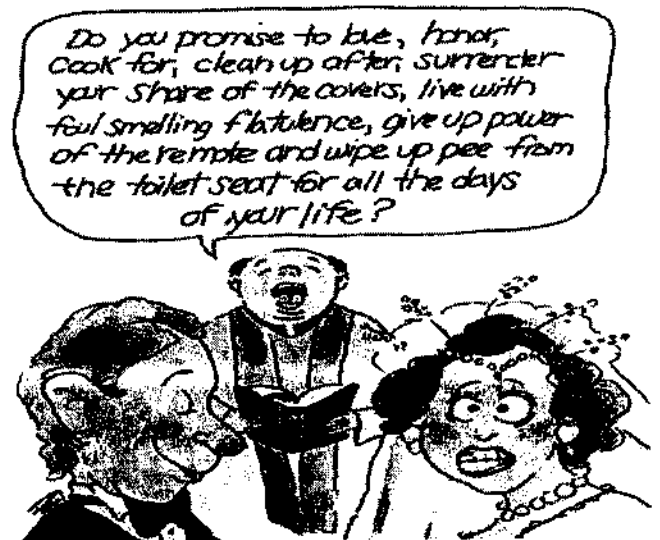
The nominating committee members were as follows who held a meeting on the 9th September 2002:

Asbjorn Austvuk, Norway	Hipolito S. Ferreira, Brazil
Samuel I. Greene, Calif., USA	Ruddolf Horbdkerm, Germany
Garty C K Huang, Taiwan	Hiroshi Maruyama, Japan
Ralph E. McLaughlin, Texas, USA	Robert L. Menconi, Fla. USA
Carlo Monticelli, Italy	Louis Piconi, Pa. USA
William Sergeant, Tenn. USA	Meda K.Panduranga, Setty, India
Julio Sorjus, Spain	Barry E. Thompson, Australia
Raymond R. Wells, N.J. USA	Roy J.A. Whitby, England
Wilfrid J. Wilkinson, Ont. Canada	

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

A woman was walking along the beach when she stumbled upon a Genie's lamp. She picked it up and rubbed it, and lo-and-behold a Genie appeared. The amazed woman asked if she was going to receive the usual three wishes. The Genie said, "Nope... due to inflation, constant downsizing, low wages in third-world countries, and fierce global competition, I can only grant you one wish. So...what'll it be?" The woman didn't hesitate. She said, "I want peace in the Middle East. See this map? I want these countries to stop fighting with each other." The Genie looked at the map and exclaimed, "Gadzooks, lady! These countries have been a war for thousands of years. I'm good, but not THAT good! I don't think it can be done. Make another wish."

The woman thought for a minute and said, "Well, I've never been able to find the right man. You know, one that's considerate and fun, likes to cook and helps with the housecleaning, is good in bed and gets along with my family, doesn't watch sports all the time, and is faithful. That's what I wish for ... a good mate." The Genie let out a long sigh and said, "Let me see that freakin' map!"



YEAR 2002-2003

President 1999-2000 John Chan	Vice President 2000-2001 John Chan	President Elect 2001-2002 John Chan	President 2002-2003 John Chan	Secretary Eddy Wong	Treasurer Clark Lu	Advisor PDD Peter Hall
President 2003-2004 John Chan	Vice President 2004-2005 John Chan	President Elect 2005-2006 John Chan	President 2006-2007 John Chan	Secretary Jason Chee	Treasurer Denny Kulis	PP Council Rep PP Tom Lee

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ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 12:30 p.m. AT
SUN HUNG KAI HOTEL, CADEWAY BAY



Our guest speaker was Mr. Paul Etherington of Kayak-and-Hike who talked about the his local tours of famous but normally unreachable sites by the normal tour groups.



This week's birthday boys being congratulated by Pres. Chris giving them their birthday presents while the song was led by PP John IV.



Our group photo shows Pres Chris with the guest speaker & other Rotarians on 16th October, 2002

The 43rd District Conference of 3450 took place in Macau on 19th –20th October, 2002



DG Gloria making her opening remarks at the start of the District Conference.



Pictured here are our delegates to the District Conference. Not shown are our two PDG's Peter & Y.K. who were busy elsewhere.



Our delegates very much alert to the proceedings at the District Conference.

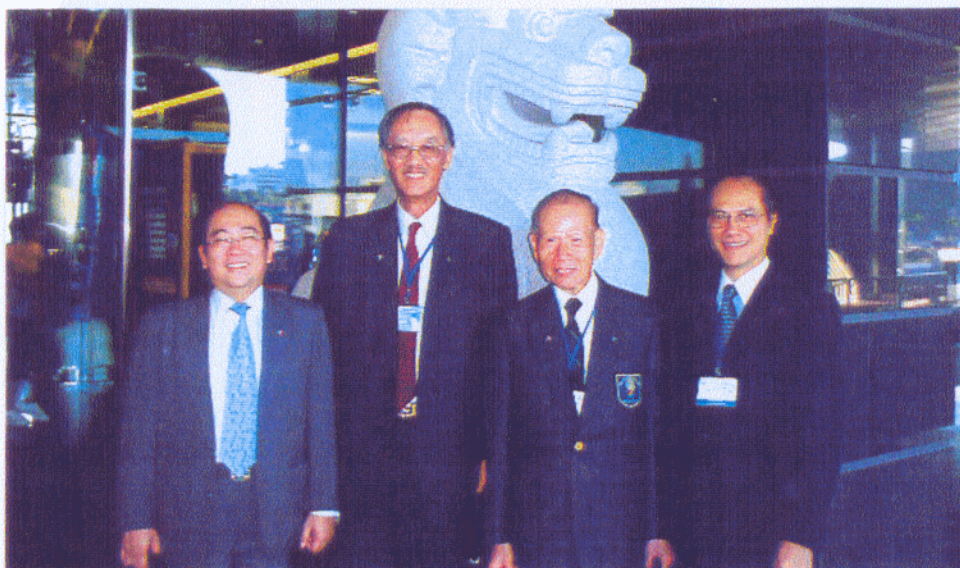
The 43rd District Conference of 3450 took place in Macau on 19th -20th October, 2002



Our Club Members surrounded Past RI Director Rafael G. Hechanova (RI President's Personal Representative to our Conference) & Our PDG Moses Cheng. All in a very happy mode.



Photo of our members taken with Pres. Chris & PDG's Peter & Y.K. at our breakfast.

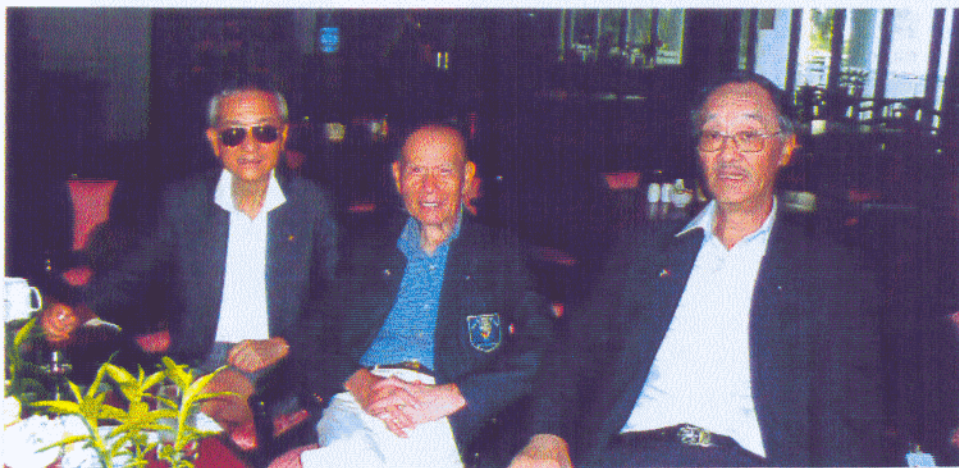


Our members pictured here in front of the Convention Hall (L to R) Rtn Robert Lai, PP John IV, PDG Uncle Peter & Rtn Laurence.

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We had a Pre-Conference Golf Tournament in ZhuHai the day before the Conference.



Three tired out golfers relaxing after the hard fought golf game but the winners were not these three golfers shown here. The happy fellow on the left side eventually won the consolation prize & he was PP Ko Ying.



The eventual winner of the golf tournament was PP David Li who received the low gross trophy & the longest drive. The lucky fellow!!

The 43rd District Conference of 3450 took place in Macau on 19th –20th October, 2002



Eat your hearts out those of you who missed this year's District Conference in Macau! That's PE Gwennie Tam of the Rotary Club of Hou Kuong pictured with you know who.

A Report on the Rotary International District 3450
43rd District Conference in Macau
on 19th-20th October, 2002

PDG Uncle Peter and Pres. Chris led a total of ten HK Island East members to attend the 43rd District Conference in Macau on October 19 - 20. With hospitality of free return ferry ticket, we had a safe passage to Macau on the Saturday morning. A treat by PDG YK (in the honor of Rtn Robert) for a delightful lunch in the New World Hotel, which was also the place where we stayed.

The City had a pleasant and relaxed atmosphere and the Macau Tower Convention & Entertainment Centre was an ideal place to host the conference programmes. Meanwhile, all of us had a free ride to the 60th floor for a magnificent view of the Macau and Zhuhai area.

The guest of honor was Dr. Chui, the secretary for social affairs and culture of Macau SAR Government. The conference was attended by the RI President Personal Representative – PDG “Paing” Hechanova of Manila (also R.I. Director 1996-1998) and who happened to witness the first Polio eradication project in the 1970’s for the 1 million children in Manila. The first day events covered the updates for Rotary Foundations and the Polio Plus Project.

We had a wonderful evening for the Governor banquet, with local folk dance, live band and song performance. Nevertheless we were ready for an early rise for the Sunday morning session. The first lady of Mongolia came to enlighten us on the social dimensions of human development in her country and PDG YK addressed us regarding the District 3450 project on Hepatitis B Prevention Program. We also received the Youth activities updates from the Group Study Exchange, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship and Peace Scholarship, their Alumni programmes, the Interactors and Rotaractors programmes, and RYLA.

The lunch was presented with information and campaign request for Land Mines prevention and eradication, and the afternoon was concluded with conference resolution and introduction of our future leader DGE Jones Wong.

By VP Rudy Lau