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Act with
Consistency
Credibility
Continuity

YEAR 1999-2000

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Our 46th Year of Rotary Service Chartered: 6th April, 1954 by Founding President, the late PDG (Uncle) John Yuen



What Happened Last Week

This meeting got underway when President Desmond gave a special welcome to our long lost, and very valued member, Ramesh. He explained that he has been required to travel overseas extensively for several months, but is now back in Hong Kong, and very excited about the engagement of his daughter.

Today there were three visiting Rotarians, Rudy Chan (Admiralty), Susan Schofield (Hong Kong) and Benny Ratnani (HK North East). In addition, there were three guests, Dr Jin Li Jin (PP George), Peter Kong (Rtn Bill) and Stephen Mack (Guest speaker).

The only birthday boy for the day was none other than our President Desmond. Rtn Robert wasn't sure what we could give such a dedicated, hard-working President to celebrate such an occasion, but comments were quick from the floor, and it was suggested that Robert "shine Desmond's shoes." This suggestion wasn't taken up but Robert did lead the birthday song. President Desmond seemed to have forgotten his present but he did have the IOU present for Rtn Manolo.

There were several announcements at this meeting: PE Tajwar began by reminding members about the busy night on Friday, 3 December at the Craigengower Cricket Club. This will begin with a Board meeting at 6:00 p.m., followed by a Club Assembly about 6:30 p.m. At 8:00 p.m., the President's Night will kick off and members and their spouses are encouraged to attend.

Rtn Rudy announced that the Christmas Party for children at the Victoria Park School for the Deaf will be held at the University of Science and Technology on 12 December, beginning at 10 a.m. Members were invited to attend. This should be enjoyable, even just to see Kishu dressed up as Santa.

In his capacity as Sergeant, Rudy also announced that \$2,700 had been donated this week.

It was then IPP C.Y.'s turn to provide some information on Rotary. He informed members that the RI Nominating Committee had selected Richard D. King as its candidate for the 2001-2002 presidency of RI. A past director of RI, Richard King is a current Trustee of The Rotary Foundation and a member of the Rotary Club of Niles (Fremont), California, USA.

If no other candidate is nominated, he will be elected at the 2000 Buenos Aires Convention, serve as president-elect during 2001-2002, and take office as RI chief executive on 1 July, 2001.

Finally to the highlight of the meeting: Rtn Malcolm introduced the guest speaker, Stephen Mack, Director of Topline Wine School. His talk was titled, "How to Beat the Wine Snob."

Stephen's occupation is concerned with educating people in how to competently assess and describe wines. In his attempt to help members understand what this is all about, he took a simplistic approach by first explaining some characteristics of wine and how they are attained. Essentially, all wine juice is the same clear colour, but red wines are made by leaving the red skins in contact with the juice for varying amounts of time. This imparts, among other things, the red colour and especially the tanin which allows the wine to age longer and accounts for that 'fur ball' sensation in the mouth after sipping a red.

For his demonstration, he provided samples of a New Zealand chardonnay (white). Members were shown how to assess and describe the wine using the three senses:

Look at the wine first. Red wines reveal much information from their visual appearance, whereas, white wines do not have much to show. Smell the wine after swirling it around in the glass. This may activate memories of the same wine tasted previously, together with olfactory characteristics of that particular vintage. Finally, taste the wine and allow it to contact all parts of the tongue. The specialized areas on the tongue will indicate what characteristics of the wine are prominent, i.e., acidity, sweetness or bitterness.

By this time several members were a little tipsy and Stephen was forced to bring the drinking to a close.

Rtn Chris came to the rostrum to thank Stephen for his interesting presentation. At least Chris is not a wine snob as he admitted he doesn't know anything about wine. He said he "just likes drinking it."

To close the meeting, President Desmond proposed a toast to the Rotary Club of Hong Kong.

Rotary Information

Team approach keeps membership drive in high gear

"Let's have some fun with this." That was the mandate set by membership chair Barbara Bailey when the Rotary Club of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, USA, launched a membership drive earlier this year.

"We wanted new members, of course, but we also wanted to keep the membership drive interesting so everyone would stay motivated," Bailey said.

They succeeded on both counts. At the conclusion of the two-month drive, membership increased from 50 to 61, and even long-time members expressed a new enthusiasm for Rotary. Using a team approach helped keep interest from waning, Bailey said. At the start of the drive, club members were divided into 10 teams of five.

"We assigned members to teams, so they couldn't just sign up with a buddy," she said. "This provided an added benefit of getting club members to get to know one another better."

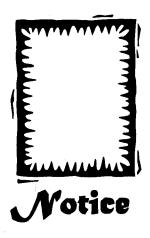
At one early meeting, team members chose captains and selected names for their teams. "All the names were pretty funny, but 'The Membership Maniacs' is one that comes to mind," Bailey said.

Each member was supplied with a packet that included information about Rotary - including a copy of The 4-Way Test and the brochure "This is Rotary" - a membership application, and a list of chamber of commerce businesses and owners. Potential members were then identified invited to a special club meeting where video of Rotary International activities, spliced with examples of the Sun Prairie club's activities, was shown, and two club members save testimonials on what Rotary means to them.

"The club liked that presentation," Bailey said. "One member told me, 'After seeing that video and hearing the testimonials, I wanted to join Rotary all over again."

The team that brought in the most prospective members was awarded gift certificates to a club member's restaurant.

"Membership drives don't have to be dull," Bailey said. "We had fun, and we all have renewed energy for Rotary."



We missed you on 1st December 1999!!!

Team 1 Chan Hubert; Yucel, Ates

Team 2 Lui, Tim
Team 3 Fung, Lewis

Team 4 Chen, Andrew; Cheng, Y.K.; Ghose, T.K.; Kilis, Danny;

Li, David

Team 5 Ling, Thomas; Luy, Henry; Narain, Kishu; Shek, Andrew

Team 6 Chan, Joseph

Please makeup!!!



An elderly Italian man went to his local priest for confession.

"Father, at the beginning of World War II, a beautiful woman knocked on my door and asked me to hide her from the Germans. I hid her in my attic and they never found her," he said.

"That's a wonderful thing, my son, and something you should be proud of - there is certainly no need to confess,' said the priest.

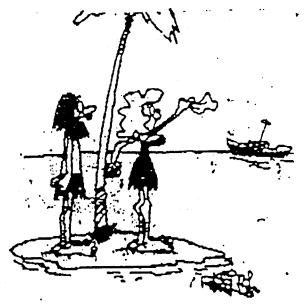
"It's worse, though, Father. I was weak and told her she had to pay for rent of the attic with sexual favours," the man said glumly.

"Well, they were difficult times and you did risk your life to save her," the priest said slowly. "I'm sure that God, in this wisdom and mercy, will balance the good and the evil, and will judge you kindly."

Thank you, Father," said the old Italian. "That's a great loan off my mind. Can I ask you another question?"

"Of course, my son," said the priest.

The Italian paused for a moment, then said, "Do I have to tell her the war is over?"



"You mean you're not a female impersonator?"



Guest speaker, Stephen Mack, teaching members how to avoid being a wine snobs.



PDG Uncle Peter: "He forgot his own birthday present this week but fortunately remembered Manolo's I.O.U."



TUNG FENG
THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST



Rtn. Robert congratulated by birthday boy Desmond after a good shoe-shine job.



PP Ramesh: "Don't blame me for truancy-he's the guy you gotta watch."

These two guys always seem to have a way with the women: PP's John IV and J.L. with visitor Susan Schofield(H.K.)



Rtn. Chris looking after guest Peter Kong and Rtn. Rudy Chan, (Admiralty)





Three very happy faces after the wine tasting.

