

Last week's Proceedings -

9th December, 2009

President Norman started the meeting at 1:05pm by welcoming all our attending members and our guest Joanne Li from the Rotary Club of St. Ives, Sydney, Australia.

President Norman then made the following announcements:

- 1. On Dec 4th our Uncle Peter Cup golf tournament in Fanling and the subsequent fellowship dinner held in Deep Water Bay Golf Club were well attended and there was a surplus of HKD 1,530 which would become part of the Red Box collection of today. President Norman thanked all participated members, their families and guests for their attendance and in particular the commendable efforts of the members of the organizing committee led by PE Heman for such an enjoyable event.
- 2. For the X'mas party of Choi Jun School to be held on Friday, the 18th December 2009, we have invited the Rotaractors of Lingnan University to participate in a performance show for the school students. Some of our board members would also attend and stay for lunch at the school. All members would be welcome to join as well.
- 3. We have received updated progress report from our sister club, the Rotary Club of Makati North, in the Philippines about the project to donate food packs to the victims of over 100 families suffered from the recent typhoon floodings in which our club has sponsored an amount of HKD 11,000.

Acting Sergeant-At-Arm Rudy made his report for the Red Box Donation with the amount totaling a handsome HK\$3,030 which has included, the contribution from the members attended today's meeting, the surplus fund donated from the Uncle Peter Golf Cup tournament and a special contribution from Uncle John for the appearance of his name in the Uncle Peter Golf Cup for the first time.

Then came the highlight of the day with our speaker, Peter Schindler, who was formally introduced by our IPP Andy, to present to us about the exciting experience of driving in China.

He started the talk with the story of "The Magic and Madness of Making a Dream Come True in China". This was the tale - richly illustrated with fantastic photos and the occasional burst of humour - of his Nokia-sponsored drive through China in 2007.

Between May 12th and August 12th of that year a dream came true for Peter. After two years of preparation, Peter took off on a 104-day road trip through China, not in a Land Rover or a Porsche Cayenne, but in the granddaughter of a 1950s Lotus. This is after all a car that was made for British race tracks and Sunday morning leisure rides on the smooth-as-a-baby's-bottom country roads of England. When it comes to a "driving holiday" in China, it is as ill-suited to the task as a Hummer is to parking in London.

Peter's journey began in Shanghai. It first followed the course of the Yangtze to its source in Qinghai. From there he nursed his car via Lhasa to the source of the Yellow River and then back to the East China Sea along the meandering flow of this other mighty river of China. The journey took him from the artificial glitz of the East Coast to the natural splendor of the Tibetan Highlands, and from the terraced rice fields of Longsheng to the plains of Inner Mongolia. At the end of the journey, Miss Daisy - as Peter's open-top mother of all sports came to be called - was auctioned off at a gala charity event hosted by Yao Ming. The proceeds went to the China Youth Development Foundation.

Driving a car designed in the 1950s and with a road clearance of about an inch and a half predictably resulted in a number of precarious and hilarious situations and encounters with bemused locals: crossing the 5,300m high Tanggula Pass between Tibet and Qinghai almost proved too much for the altitude sick Miss Daisy; glacial rapids which could

only be crossed with the help of hapless bystanders pushed even Chinese hospitality to and beyond their limits.

Peter originally hails from Switzerland. When he was a lot younger, he raced automobiles in Europe - Formula 2, Formula 3, Formula Super-V and Renault Elf - for four years, on occasion even successfully. He then entered the 'dark years' of his life during which he studied I.T. at M.I.T. and business at INSEAD. Painfully, he heaved himself up to become an associate partner in Accenture's China practice. Then it was time to move on. Having driven over the years a million-plus kilometers on roads in Europe, the U.S. and Asia, and loving every moment of it, he nowadays quenches his thirst for driving by taking to the roads of China.

The upshot is www.ontheroadinchina.com, a company which specializes in guided driving journeys in China's most beautiful regions, mostly in Sichuan, Yunnan, Tibet and border countries like Laos and Thailand. The purpose of these journeys is not only to enjoy open roads and the freedom of driving, but also to see a side of China that few tourists ever see. Peter's company offers itineraries from as short as 6 to as long as 14 days. Some of his itineraries are rather adventurous - for example, from Chengdu to Lhasa - while others are luxurious - for example, from Yunnan's Shangri-la area via Lijiang, Dali, Kunming, Laos, the Golden Triangle to Thailand's Chiang Mai. Through his cooperation with Avis, Peter is able to offer the best rental SUVs in China - brand-new 2009 Toyota Landcruiser Prados. Besides great cars and roads, fabulous landscapes and wide cultural variety, Peter hopes that his journeys will also delight those who love good food and are looking for unique holiday experiences in China.

After his talk Peter was officially thanked by Rtn. John Yao who led us to put our hands together to thank Peter for sharing his remarkable driving adventures in China with us.

Pres. Norman announced that in the coming luncheon meeting on Dec 16, we have our Club Assembly again in which our board members and committee chairs would report to us the latest projects and club activities and he urged all members to attend and give their valuable support and advice.

Pres. Norman then adjourned the meeting at 2.02 pm and asked all members to make a toast to Rotary International coupled with the Rotary Clubs of St. Ives and HK Island East and then invited all participants for a group photo.

Rotary Potpourri

Rotary Institute in the Philippines (2009)

The last Rotary Institute was held in Hong Kong in the year 2000 under the directorship of the then director of RI, Gary Huang, when PDG Arthur Au was appointed Chairman of the Institute and PDG Peter Hall was the Hon. Treasurer.

In November, 2009, The Rotary Institute had been successfully ended with a total participants of over 1,000 in the Philippines.

The next Rotary Institute had been decided to be held in Bangkok, Thailand on 19th November 2010. Registration is now open. For particulars, please refer to D.G. Ada Cheng of district 3450.

Club News

All-Night Net Walker project - members in action in our Community Service Project

Riding in the Youth Outreach (YO) van to identify and meet the invisible drug abusers amongst the youths in Hong Kong, our Community Service Director Kevin Leung and Hon Secretary Dr. Eric Chin joint hand with the social workers of Youth Outreach, Ah Lun (Team Leader) & Carlos, to kick off the first joint operation at 9:30 pm. in a Saturday fever evening on Dec 12, 2009.

This is a community service project we have recently joined with our daughter club, the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbor, as part of the sponsors and it is organized by the Youth Outreach, a Non-Government Organization, in Hong Kong. Please see the details about their trip below.

The target location was in Yung Shing Court, Fanling. The mobile Service Truck which equipped with the latest playstations and games facilities to attract the wandering teens to approach their outreach mobile truck. By 11 pm, there were over 20 teens got contacted with the Mobile Service Truck. Social workers and volunteers including Kevin and Eric were busily chatting and playing with them to build up rapport and communications. The aim is

not to counsel them but rather build up their willingness to trust the YO outreach team and the "brand awareness" of the YO which has a 24 hours crisis center offering helps to teens at risk.

After the operation by 2 pm, Dir. Kevin said, "It was a meaningful voluntarily evening service as it provides a golden opportunity to get close with the invisible teens who are in need of help and understand more their behavior why they stayed in streets in evening and plan for solutions to help. I am proud of our Club making the right decision to support this project" HS Dr. Eric commented, "Taking drug by teens is now a deteriorating social problem which every members in the society should not neglect its detrimental effect to our teens. After observing their ways in approaching the teens in streets, I have confident in YO's social workers, with the support of the funding from our Rotary Clubs, will certainly help to locate "invisible teens" who are in risk, provide some degree of solutions to alleviate the problems and provide assistance to the needy teens in the right time and refer them to the right place in the crisis center of YO for help".

The next operation in December 2009. will be in Ma On Shan and Tuen Mun, members who are interested, please contact Dir. Kevin for arrangement. Owing to the operation reason, only two members of our Rotary Club can be accommodated in each operation as volunteer workers from 10 pm to 2 am.

Brief background of the Project:

The programme aims at delivering anti-drug messages to the youths through the internet and outreach. The programme targets on youngsters who get used to access internet at mid-night, young drug addicts, and youths at risk of taking drugs, especially those "invisible" drug abusers.

The program lasts for 1 year and was already approved by the Beat Drug Fund of HK\$300,000 of the Hong Kong Government to start in August, 2009. Our Club and the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Harbor joined forces and sponsored the outstanding amount of HK\$ 43,300.

This program estimates to search 8,000 youngsters and conveys anti-drugs message to them throughout this one year program. It targets to let workers directly chat and share with about 800 youths-at-risk.

The program also aims to refer 100 youngsters to our Crisis Centre or other appropriate agencies for follow up work and provide job referral or school information to 100 youths.

About YouthOutreach (YO)

Youth Outreach (YO) was established in November 1991 as a crisis intervention center for youth. YO provides the following programs:

All-night Outreaching Program

Youth Outreach is a unique service among youth programs in Hong Kong. YO have eight outreaching workers who go out in vans from ten at night until six in the morning scouring the streets of Hong Kong, Kowloon and the New Territories for "Runaways & Throwaways" particularly those under the age of eighteen.

Crisis Centers (Boys' & Girls' Centers)

YO takes these young people back to our crisis centers located at Sai Wan Ho where YO provides professional counseling to both them and their parents with the aim of getting them home as soon as possible.

Others programs include 24-hour Telephone Hotline (Hotline: 9088-1023), Transitional Housing, Youth Employment Start-up Program, The Hang-out, School of Hiphop, Hong Kong Institute of Youth Studies, IT Development Workshop, Concorde Psychological Services, City Challenge.

Electronic Make-up Questions

You can submit an electronic makeup for this missed meeting by answering the following questions:

Name:
Email:
1. Who was our visiting Rotarian today and from which Rotary Club ? Ans)
2. Name one of the three announcements made by Pres. Norman at the meeting $$? Ans)
3. Who reported the Red Box collection and how much was collected today $$? Ans)
4. Who was asked to introduce our speaker ? Ans)
5. Who was our speaker and what was the topic of the talk $$? Ans)
6. Who was asked to thank our speaker ? Ans)
7. What was announced by Pres. Norman about the meeting of next week $$? Ans)
8. When and where will the 2010 Rotary Institute be held ? Ans)
Submit
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Joke

Driver's License

A mother is driving her little girl to her friend's house for a play date.

' Mommy,' the little girl asks, 'how old are you?'

'Honey, you are not supposed to ask a lady her age,' the mother replied. 'It's not polite.'

' My Mom won't tell me anything about her,' the little girl says to her friend.

'Well,' says the friend, 'all you need to do is look at her driver's license. It's like a report card, it has everything on it.'

Later that night the little girl says to her mother, 'I know how old you are. You are 32.'

The mother is surprised and asks, 'How did you find that out?

'I also know that you weigh 130 pounds.'

The mother is past surprised and shocked now. 'How in Heaven's name did you find that out?'

'And,' the little girl says triumphantly, 'I know why you and daddy got a divorce.'

'Oh really?' the mother asks. 'Why?'

'Because you got an F in sex.'

Photographs of our meeting

<u>on</u>

9th December, 2009



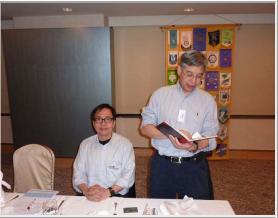
PDG Uncle Peter Hall, Speaker - Peter Schindler & Pres. Norman Lee



Vising Rotarian, Joanne Li from St. Ives, Sydney, Australia & Rtn. Peter Yeung



PP Laurence Chan, Rtn. Teresa Ho & IPP Andy Wong



Rtn. John Yao & PP Rudy Law



PP Stephen Liu



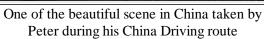
IPP Andy Wong & Speaker - Peter Schindler





Peter sharing his driving tour experience in China to our members







Pres. Norman Lee thanked Peter by presenting his photo in action



Group photos with speaker, visiting Rotarian & members

Rotarians Dir. Kevin and HS Dr. Eric in Action - 12th Dec 2009



(from Left to Right) YO Team Leader Ah Lun with Dir Kevin and HS Dr. Eric ready to start the street journey



Social Worker Carlos (Right with Dir Kevin (Left) and HS Dr. Eric (Middle) arrived Fanling with the YO Mobile Service Outreach Truck



Dir Kevin who takes part in the YO All Night Net Walker Project admired the interior design of the Mobile truck which is Teen-Centered in design with a variety of multimedia game facilities and technology driven games in

previous home

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