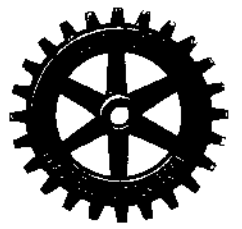




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Tung Feng

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19th February, 2003

What Happened Last Week

Pres. Chris opened the first regular meeting, since the Chinese New Year, by wishing everyone Kung Hei Fat Choi! He also stated that he was happy to accept suggestion from members to distribute the red packets to the Hotel service staff on behalf of the club. He then initiated an exchange-flag ceremony with Rt. Rube Hausmann from Vancouver Chinatown. VP. Rudy further introduced our other visiting Rotarian, PP. Michael Chiang of Peninsula, who was also our featured speaker of the day. Rt. Laurence who acted as the Sergeant-at-Arms announced a handsome collection of HK\$1,600. PP. John also announced the upcoming golf event at Shek-O club, the details of which would be distributed to members via email.

VP. Rudy took the rostrum and introduced PP. Michael Chiang of Peninsula. PP. Michael was an architect by profession, a columnist, and a member of the Fung Shui School of Lo Yang. He had also written three books about Fung Shui. Today, PP. Michael wanted to share with members his vision about the Fung Shui of Hong Kong for the Year of the Ram.

PP. Michael started his talk by reminding members that he was still an architect by profession, and thus, a man of science. In fact, he mentioned that Fung Shui was classified during the Emperor Qian Long's era as a stream of mathematics. He cited as an example that the number "1" did not actually exist in reality and was in fact merely a concept created by mathematicians, and thus, also a representation of the law of nature. Thus, though there was no scientific proof to verify the truthfulness of Fung Shui, PP. Michael still believed that the concept actually worked. He explained that part of science was the process of discovery and Fung Shui was an ancient science that was still in the process of being discovered.



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

PP. Michael then described that the Fung Shui calendar was organized according to the Chinese calendar. However, there was a fallacy that Chinese calendar was merely based on the lunar calendar, where, in fact, the former was based on both the lunar and solar calendars. Various innovative concepts, such as, leap month and winter solstice, had been introduced by many ancient Chinese mathematicians and astrologers. PP. Michael then showed a transparency drawing of the Chinese calendar for the year of the Ram. He mentioned that the Chinese calendar was originally devised in accordance with the culture of agricultural society. He pointed out the picture of the boy with bare feet and bulls plowing the field. In addition, the inscriptions on the calendar were mostly about weather and rainfall throughout the year.

When members were browsing the calendar, PP. Michael made some interpretations, such as sitting on the west-side would cause arguments with colleagues, whereas sitting on the north-west facing the water would cause harmony and good fortune to come. Additionally, if the main door of a place was facing the north, the owner would experience a lot of sickness. Furthermore, he mentioned that the Fung Shui of a place might be altered because of obstructions caused by other structures or buildings. According to him, this was one of the main reasons that architects often opposed to the idea of building tall structures along the coastlines. He also commented that the Chinese calendar revealed the good days for starting one's year of work, which was believed and practiced by many people in Hong Kong. Nevertheless, he cautioned members that the versions of the Chinese calendar produced from Guangdong, Fujian and Taiwan were quite different.

PP. Michael stated jokingly that when one needed to alter the Fung Shui of one's place, this was the opportunity for the Fung Shui master to make money! He mentioned that the most superstitious and richest Chinese were outside China in the past. Nevertheless, the belief in Fung Shui was moving as swift new waves into the mainland for the 1.3 billion Chinese people. He also explained some of the Fung Shui factors that were believed to have caused Hong Kong economic downturns, since 1998; such as, the "Five Earth" and the "Offending the Year God". Japan experienced such bad fortunes since 1992, owing to similar Fung Shui factors and other natural calamities (such as, volcano eruptions, earthquakes and so forth). According to PP. Michael, unless there were other unforeseen natural calamities to happen this year, Hong Kong's misfortunes should have ended in the year of 2002 (after a 5-year period from 1998). In the year of 2003, Hong Kong should gradually be experiencing good fortunes, and more markedly especially during the second half of the year.

Finally, PP. Michael concluded that Fung Shui was derived largely from the results of statistics and wisdom of Chinese history. Owing to the large number of practitioners, Fung Shui also needed a system of certification in order to identify and qualify the right Fung Shui masters.

Rt. Tommy mentioned that he had personally received guidance from PP. Michael regarding his office setup and had received good turnaround on his business. He then led members in thanking PP. Michael for his enlightening talk in the usual Rotarian manners. Pres. Chris then ended the session by proposing a toast to the Rotary Club of Peninsula and Vancouver Chinatown.



"Okay your father managed to get a mouse. Now how do we use it?"

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

A town in Poland had only one cow and it stopped giving milk. The townspeople did a little research and discovered they could get a cow from Moscow for 2000 rubles or one from Minsk for only 1000 rubles.

So, naturally, they got the cow from Minsk. It was a great cow had a wonderful disposition, and gave lots of milk and lots of cream. Everybody loved it dearly. The people decided they would mate the cow and get more cows like it, and then they would never have to worry about their milk supply again.

So they got a bull and led the cow and the bull into the pasture. When the bull came in from the right to mount the cow, the cow moved to the left. When the bull moved in to mount the cow from the left, the cow moved to the right.

This went on all day. Finally, in desperation, the people decided to go ask the rabbi what to do. After all he was very wise. They told him the story.

"Rabbi, we've tried all day to mate our cow. When the bull moves in from the right the cow moves left and when the bull moves in from the left the cow moves to the right. "What do we do?"

The Rabbi thought a moment and asked, "Did you buy this cow from Minsk?" "Rabbi!" they replied as one, "You are so wise! We never said we bought the cow from Minsk. How did you know that?"

The Rabbi said, sadly, "My wife is from Minsk."

YEAR 2001-2002

Rotary Office IP Stephen Li	Club Secretary IP Li Li	President IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li
President IP John Kwok	President Elect IP George Leung	President Elect IP George Leung	President Elect IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li	President Elect IP Li Li

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ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 11:30 p.m. AT
FACTORY BUILDING, CAUBERTON DAY



PP Michael Chiang of Rotary Club Peninsula giving us some bad news & some good news on the fortunes of Hong Kong for 2003. The bad news is it is going to be like this for the next few months and the good news is he predict that after June of this year things will improve. We hope he is right!!!



PP Michael gestures tell it all. Right!? It is all in the Tung Shing books.



At the left head table is PDG Uncle Peter sitting with our guest speaker & Pres. Chris all still able to smile.



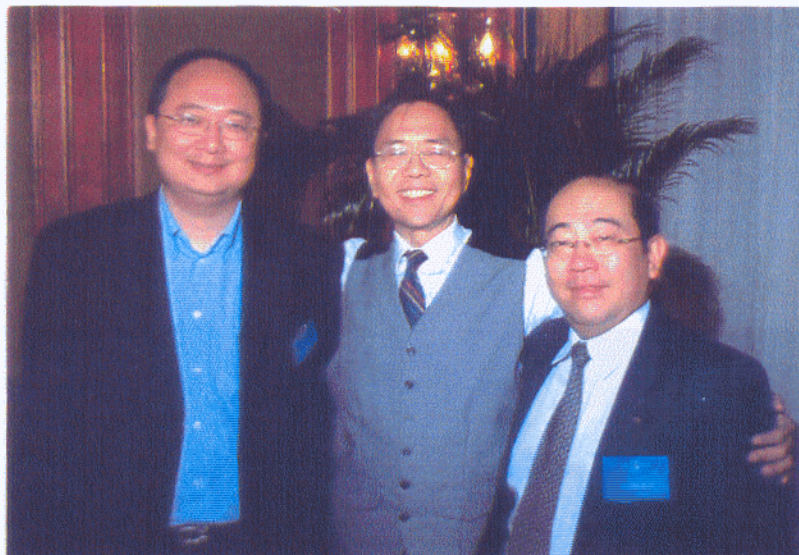
An old friend paying us a visit from Vancouver, Canada. He is Rtn Rube Housmann who now lives in Canada. Pictured here with an old friend in PP J.L.



Rtn Rube didn't forget to exchange banners with Pres. Chris.



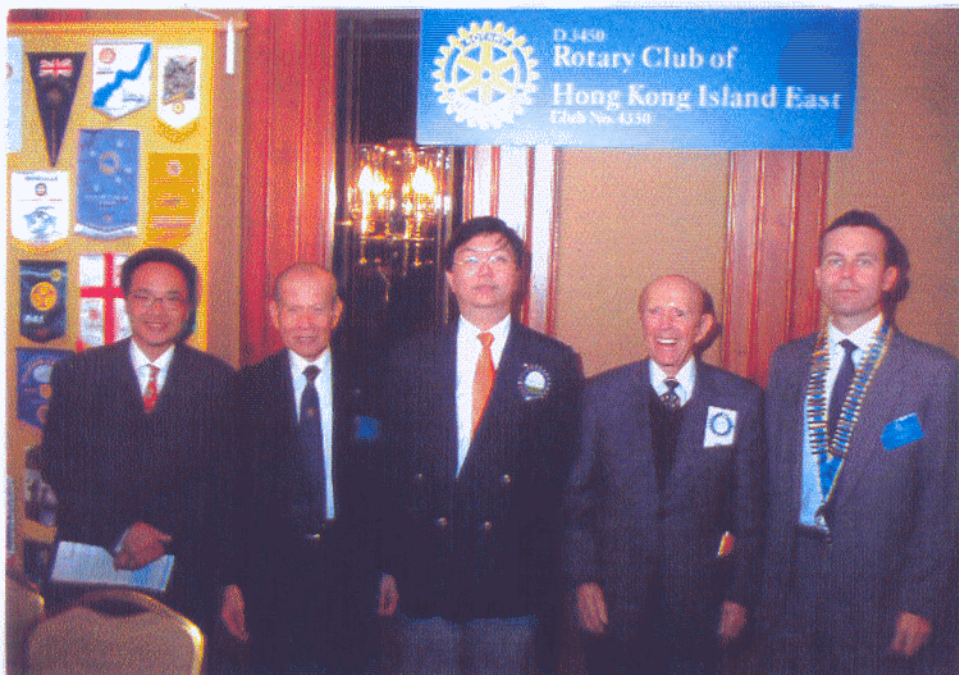
(L to R) VP Rudy, PP Adnrew & PP Hubert enjoying the meeting.



Rtn John V was so happy that he even closed his eyes dreaming of the fortunes which the two 財神 look-a-like in Rtn Danny & VP Robert would bring him this year.



(L to R) PP Tim, Rtn Heron & IPP Stephen sitting together enjoying the meeting



Group photo of PP Desmond, PDG Uncle Peter with our speaker & visiting Rotarian & Pres. Chris on 12th February, 2003.

Rotary Information

Presidential Theme for 2003-2004

Due to the hi-tech mechanism nowadays, we do not have to wait for the return of our district governor nominee to keep us informed of the new Presidential theme of his year.

Through the Rotary website, we learned that RI President-elect Jonathan Majiyagbe on Monday unveiled the 2003-2004 theme :



LEND A HAND



Lend a Hand

at the International Assembly in Anaheim, California, USA, where 529 incoming district governors are participating in training sessions to prepare them for their upcoming year in office.

After he warmly welcomed participants to “Rotary’s university,” Majiyagbe declared his theme, calling it “simple and straightforward, expressing the natural impulse that all Rotarians feel when they come face to face with human need.”

Outlining his four areas of focus for the year - poverty, health, literacy and the family of Rotary, the-president-elect said, “We will Lend a Hand to alleviate poverty, educate the illiterate, and relieve the scourge of disease, and (we will) Lend a Hand of fellowship to all of the family of Rotary,” he said.

Citing the outstanding relief efforts of Rotarians to natural disasters, Majiyagbe said, “Hunger, poverty, disease, poor health – these are the disasters that have befallen millions and we must reach out and pull them to safety with the same sense of urgency that we would pull someone from out of raging floodwaters.”

The president-elect asked the audience to remember why they first joined a Rotary club. “We have all asked ourselves, ‘What can one person do?’ In Rotary, we never have to be one person. We are 1.2 million who believe that suffering does not have to be part of the human condition,” he said.

Throughout his speech, Majiyagbe used the metaphor of the “family of Rotary,” saying that such a family “provides a haven where we can gather the strength and encouragement to face the challenges of the world.” To promote an atmosphere of

warmth and caring within the club. He plans to ask every club to form a Family of Rotary Committee in 2003-04.

The president-elect also touched upon the highlights for the 2003-04 year – the eve of the Rotary Centennial Celebration – including the graduation of the first class of Rotary World Peace Scholars, the 2004 Council on Legislation, and the launch of the Twin Clubs project, part of centennial celebration that will help clubs expand their humanitarian reach to another part of the world.

He went on to urge the audience to stay focused on PolioPlus. “Twenty years ago we made a solemn promise – today and in the coming months, we must honour our word,” he said

The International Assembly, held at the Anaheim Hilton and Towers 26 January – 2nd February, has united some 1,329 people from 78 countries for informative plenary sessions, group discussions, service meetings and fellowship event. Joining the district-governors elect are hundred of senior Rotary leaders who serve as mentors for the incoming “class” who have come to train and inspire the future district governor.

Note: According to Rotary Statistic, there are 530 districts world wide. The above report showed only 529 district governors nominee attended the International Assembly. Where is the missing one ? Will report at a later time when verified