

Last Week's Proceedings (24th February , 2005)

This week we had a joint luncheon meeting with RC of HK Harbour on 24 Feb at the Regal Hong Kong Hotel.

President Theresa of RC of HK Harbour started the meeting by welcoming all the visiting Rotarians and guests. President Rudy of RC of HK Island East then introduced visiting Rotarians - PDG Uncle Peter, PDG YK Cheng, Hon. Treasurer Laurence Chan, Hon Sec. PP John Kwok, IPP Henry Chan, PE Eddy Wong, PP John Luk, PP David Li, Rtn Tony Loy, Rtn Heron Chan & Dir. Andy Wong.

After the introduction of other visiting Rotarians & guests, President Theresa announced the two birthday boys, PE CK Wong from RC of HK Harbour and PP David Li from HK Island East. W.T. of RC of HK Harbour led the birthday song and Hon. Sec. PP John Kwok of RC of HKIE presented the birthday gifts. Our birthday boy, PP David Li contributed HK\$300 to our Red Box.

After the announcements of RC of HK Harbour, PP Antonio Chu of RC of HK Harbour introduced the speaker for the week, Mr. Edward Yau, Deputy Secretary for Education & Manpower. His topic was "Equipping for the Future - Higher Education & Manpower Planning in Hong Kong".

Mr. Yau mentioned the importance of continuous learning to enhance job knowledge, professional skills, language skills & IT knowledge etc. in order to stay competitive for all industries. The current academic profile of our population indicates only a small percentage of Hong Kong citizens had received higher education. Therefore, it is essential to encourage and facilitate higher education in order to maintain our competitive edge and to reach international standards.

Mr. Yau then shared with us his major areas of work in Higher Education, Upgrading Workforce & Building a Progression Path.

Higher Education Reform - This program aims at achieving a higher percentage (at least 60%) of our population for higher education. Beside the current part-time certificate, diploma and degree programs, other study channels such as sub-degree programs through universities and the Vocational Training Council are established.

Upgrading the Workforce - The government has established a Skill Upgrading Scheme working closely with 22 industries to provide proper training programs for upgrading of skills & job knowledge. The Employee Re-training Board is another program to assist lower skill workers with below form 3 education and aged 30 or above. Both Schemes are supported by Government funding.

Qualification Framework - In order to motivate employees to upgrade their qualifications and standards, the government has established a framework for progression to help employees to build a career path. This Scheme is to encourage employees to enhance competencies in related fields of their work.

For Hong Kong to maintain the status of world city, education levels must be raised for us to be competitive at global standards. Therefore, life long learning is to be promoted for our society and efforts to encourage further education for the people of Hong Kong is crucial for our future success.

President Theresa thanked the speaker. A birthday cake to celebrate the centennial of Rotary was prepared - although it was 24 Feb. in Hong Kong, it was in fact 23 Feb. in the US. PDG Uncle Peter, PDG YK Cheng, Pres. Andrew & Pres.Rudy and the two birthday boys honored the cake cutting ceremony.

President Theresa then close the meeting by proposing a toast to RI coupled with RC of HK Northeast & RC of HK Island East.

Oven Fresh Rotary Information

It was announced at the Secretaries Training Seminar on the 26th February 2005, that the Presidential Theme of Rotary International for the ensuing year is :

"Service Above Self"

Rotary Information

The Rotary Foundation Trustees reinstate 3-H grants & Annual GSEs

At their October 2004 meeting, the Rotary Foundation Trustees lifted a three-year moratorium on new Health, Hunger and Humanity (3-H) Grant application. Updated requirements for 3 -H Grant applicants include a minimum sponsor contribution of 10 percent of the amount of the total grant award, proven success as a primary sponsor for a Matching Grant project within five years of application for a 3-H Grant and submission of a community needs assessment demonstrating local support. The Trustees are accepting proposals until 31st March, proposals that meet programme requirements will receive an application to be completed and submitted by 1 August 2005 for consideration at the April 2006 Trustees meeting.

The Trustees also reinstated the annual Group Study Exchange (GSE) awards funded by the World Fund and will consider application received by 1 March 2005 for team travel in 2005-06. (This is a one-time exception to the usual application deadline of 1 October.) Districts may send a maximum of two GSE teams during a given programme year: One financed through the World Fund, the other through DDF, a DDF donation from a partner district, or a restricted gift to the Permanent Fund.

Joke & Cartoon

Subject: Reincarnation

Harry did like he always does, kissing his wife, crawling into bed and falling to sleep.

All of a sudden, he wakes up with an elderly man dressed in a cowl standing in front of his bed.

"What the hell are you doing in my bedroom?.....and who are you?" he asked.

"This is not your bedroom," the man replied, "I am St. Peter, and you are in heaven."

"WHAT!?? Are you saying I'm dead? I don't want to die.....I'm too young." said Harry. "If I'm dead, I want you to send me back immediately."

"It's not that easy", said St.Peter, "you can only return as a dog or a hen. You can choose on your own...

" Harry thought about it for a while, and figured out that being a dog is too tiring, but a hen probably has a nice and relaxed life. Running around with a rooster can't be that bad.

"I want to return as a hen." Harry replied.

And in the next second, he found himself in a chicken run, really nicely feathered. But man, now "he" felt like the rear end was gonna blow......then along came the rooster.

"Hey, you must be the new hen on the farm." he said. "How does it feel?"

"Well, it's OK I guess, but it feels like my rear end is blowing up."

"Oh that!" said the rooster. "That's only the ovulation going on. Have you never laid an egg before ??"

"No, how do I do that?" Harry asked.

"Cluck twice, and then you push all you can."

Harry clucked twice, and pushed more than he was good for, and then 'Plop' and an egg was on the ground.

"Wow" Harry said "that felt really good!"

So he clucked again and squeezed. And you better believe that there was yet another egg on the ground.

The third time he clucked, he heard his wife shout: "Harry, for Gods sake wake up, you're shitting all over the bed!"



Photographs of our meeting

on

24th February, 2005



Mr. Edward Yau, J.P., Deputy Secretary for Education and Manpower addressing us on "Equipping for the Future - Higher Education & Manpower Planning in Hong Kong".



At the head table were seated (L to R) Mr. Edward Yau, Pres. Theresa Chan (HKH), Pres. Rudy Law (HKIE), PDG Uncle Peter (HKIE) and in the foreground is PP John Kwok Hon Sec.(HKIE).



A Panoramic view of the gathering showing the Looong Table not quite full but soon were fully occupied..



Here is where fellowship are shown fully with a good mix of HKIE and HKHarbour members. (L to R) IPP Henry Chan (HKIE), Rtn W. T. Wong (HKH) Hon Sec PP Veronica Dekrey, PP Charles Wong and PP David Li (HKIE)



(L to R) Pres. Andrew Shum (HKNE), Rtn Ozer Ebrahim (HKNE), AG Ramesh Chugani (Kowloon North), AG Albert Wong (Kowloon West).



(L to R) AG Albert Wong (Kowloon West), PP Eddie Leung (HKH), IPP Henry Chan (HKIE) and IPP Howard Lok (HKH)



(L to R) PP Grace Yen (HKH) and Rtn Yoshie Takenaka (HKH).





(L to R) Rtn Cindy Cheng and PP Eddie Leung (both from HKH).



(L to R) PE Eddy Wong and Dr Tony Loy (both from HKIE).



PE C.K. Wong with the beautiful lady who remains anonymous. (Possible new member C.K.?)



There were two birthday boys one from each club. They are shown here receiving the presents from PP John. One was PP David Li (HKIE) the other was PE CK Wong (HKH).



We have four PP's sitting together. They are PP Kennedy, IPP Howard, PPAntonio Chu (HKH) and PP David Li (HKIE)



Here is another cake cutting ceremony of RI's 100th birthday with Pres Theresa & Pres Rudy and PDG Uncle Peter holding the knife with PE CK, PDG YK Cheng (HKIE) and Pres Andrew Shum (HKNE) and PP David Li looking on.



Group Photo of the gathering with Pres. Theresa, Rudy and PDG's Uncle Peter, Y.K. Cheng, the guest speaker and all Rotarians from the two clubs on 24th February, 2005.

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