

Last week's Proceedings -

12th March, 2008

President Laurence started the meeting at 1:10 pm and he introduced his wife Rotarianne Jennie to all members. Then he invited SAA Heman to report the Red Box Contribution today and SAA Heman reported that HK\$ 1100 donation was received.

In this luncheon meeting, our Guest Speaker was PP Nicholas Pirie of RC of HK South. His topic today was PROJECT FOR THE PERSONS AFFECTED BY LEPROSY PROJECT - "PALS". PP Nick is a Barrister-at-Law.

PP Nick explained that The Rotary/Handa Liangshan Hansen's Disease Rehabilitation Project was initiated by Rotary Club Hong Kong South in 2002. The Kadoorie Charitable Foundation, Rotary Club Hong Kong South and St. Stephen's Chapel (Stanley, Hong Kong) have been funding the project since April 2005.

The project aimed at improving the well being of the people affected by leprosy (PAL) in the leprosy villages in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan Province. It was run jointly by the following:

- RCHKS-Handa Projects International Ltd. (RH), responsible for fundraising, project development and monitoring, and mobilizing voluntary resources/expertise
- Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), responsible for village doctors training and coordinating project implementation at local level
- Handa Welfare and Rehabilitation Association (Handa). Handa is a Guangdong-registered NGO which has been working in this field for 10 years. They are responsible for consultancy, training and field support.

Institutionally, the project has consolidated its presence in Liangshan, gaining the recognition and support of CDC to the effect that it has endorsed the extension of project partnership in the second 3-year phase. Furthermore, field implementation has been handed over to Handa gradually since April 2007. RH will focus on project monitoring and fundraising. The new arrangement made the best division of labour.

With this foundation, the project is ready to expand its project scope in the next 3 years with a focus on public education, social integration and livelihood improvement.

The long term goal of the project is to enable the PAL and their families to improve their physical health and livelihood in the project leprosy villages, and attaining gradual social integration.

To attain this goal, 5 objectives are drawn up for the next 3 years. These objectives are adopted in the 3-year project planning meetings attended by the project staff, Handa support staff, village representatives and volunteers in August 2007. They are as below:

- 1. **Physical Rehabilitation** to reduce disabilities among the PAL so as to increase their physical mobility and hence their ability to take care of their daily life
- 2. Hygiene & Sanitation Improvement to create a living environment conducive to the physical rehabilitation of the PAL and general health in the village
- 3. Livelihood Improvement to increase the annual household income of the PAL by an average of Rmb500 so that they can gradually lift themselves out of poverty and improve their life with their own means
- **4. Social and psychological rehabilitation** to facilitate public acceptance of the PAL and their families by increasing the self-confidence and capacity of the PAL, and to increase the understanding and awareness of the general public towards leprosy villages and the PAL
- **5. Education Programme** to break the chain of poverty in the third generation of PAL families by improving the quality of education for the children through upgrading the learning aids in the village schools, and supporting all eligible children from 'very poor families' to study outside the village.

Nick said that the project would need \$2.6 million balance as part of funding was secured in the following sources:

- Our Budget for the next 3 years is HK\$7 million;
- The Kadoorie Foundation has donated \$3.8 million;
- Anonymous Rotarian has donated \$600,000.

Nick appealed to the audiences to consider provides support to this project to make it a successful one.

After PP Nick's speech and the Q & A session, President Laurence presented a photo and a vote of thanks to him. President Laurence then adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm and he proposed a toast to R.I. and Rotary Club of Hong Kong South, coupled with the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East. All participants were invited to take a group photo afterwards.

Rotary Potpourri

Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (Part 1)

Upon the return of District Governor Elect, Albert Wong, from the Rotary Institute in San Diego, USA, a Presidents-Elect Training Seminar was held at the Miramar Hotel, for the incoming leaders for the year 2008-2009.

While the incumbent District Governor, Peter Wong gave his welcome address, our D.G. elect, Albert Wong introduced his first hand information of the Rotary International theme, emphases and goals, touching on a spiration, motivation and dedication. The most important subject was the District Budget (2008-2009) and requested all incoming presidents to discuss same at their board meeting and asked further explanation from the incoming District Treasurer, PP Peter Choy before the district Assembly which will be held on 26th April 2008.

The Presidential theme is "Make Dreams Real".

In order to save time, coffee break was served during the discussion workshops of each topic at various rooms. It was divided into three parts, viz.,

- 1. Role and responsibilities of the Incoming Assistant Governors/Deputy Assistant Governors;
- 2. Presidents-elect, membership and service projects and
- 3. Secre taries-elect.

For ready reference, the district structure for the Rotary year 2008-2009 is as follows:

District Administration		Name of Rotarian	Rotary Club
District Governor		Albert Wong	Kowloon West
D.GElect		Ada Cheng	Wanchai
D.G.N. (2010-2011)		Jason Chan	The Peak
Assistant Governor	Area 1	Rocky Chung	Taipa
-do -	Area 2	Tham Chee Lung	Admiraltv
-do -	Area 3	Wendy Mung	Peninsula
-do -	Area 4	Peter Lo	Kingspark HK
-do -	Area 5	Roger Lee	HK Northwest
-do -	Area 6	Sam Sio	Channel Islands
-do -	Area 7	Da vid Harilela	Kowloon Golden Mile
-do -	Area 8	Tong Yat Hung	Kowloon Northwest
-do -	Area 9	Oyungere J	Khuree

Joint Community Service Project

We are entering into a joint community service project this year with our sister club-Rotary Club of Osaka-Jonan, Japan which is known as <u>Playright</u> concentrating on hospital play service. President Umezeki and director Nishimura flew from Osaka to Hong Kong to present themselves in action during the opening of the Playright Channel on the 13th March 2008 in Princess Margaret Hospital, Kowloon. The two delegates demonstrated their skill in Japanese singing and also finger games to entertain the hospitalized chronic child patients of the hospital together with those of the other hospitals through Interactive TV Channel (Playright Channel) which broadcasts every month.

Little do we know about this Playright project until we had a speaker to our club meeting to explain the idea and the necessities to enrich the social life of children in hospital.

In fact, Playright has been in existence some twenty years ago in a small scale. In 1994 Playright brought a hospital play service based on proven international practice in Hong Kong. To this day, the service, provided by experienced and well trained hospital play specialists, ensures that every child they help can still enjoy the right to play while in hospital.

The TV Channel has been brought in only in recent years and is managed by mostly volunteers under the guidance of the Playright Children's Play Association. This Association was established in 1987 and is a non-profit making organization that seeks to enrich the life of every child through quality play. Through action, research and publicity covering four related areas:- Advocacy, Play Resources, Play Outreach and Play Environments.

After nearly an hour of activities participated by our Osaka-Jonan delegates and members of HKIE in this TV Channel, we departed the Princess Margaret Hospital and later joined together with our Rotariannes for a Chinese dinner at the Jumbo Floating Restaurant (Jumbo Kingdom). Special souvenirs were presented to our delegates by President Laurence Chan to mark the occasion.

During the morning session, we toured the Choi Jun Special School in Shatin with the delegates of our sister club. They are interested to co-sponsor the swimming training classes to the students next year, subject to the approval of their board. We spent the whole morning inspecting every aspect, from special classrooms to computer class and play, cooking rooms as well as gardening area. A Chinese dim-sum lunch had been well arranged at the HK Jockey Club in Shatin, the New Territories. This whole day activities occupied their visit to Hong Kong. They returned home on 14th March 2008 by air. Saryonara!

Electronic Make-up Questions

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

1. Who was our visiting guest?			
Answer:			
2. How much we have collected for the Red Box?			
Answer:			
3. Who was our speaker and what was the topic about?			
Answer:			
4. Where was the recent President-Elect Training Seminar held?			
Answer:			
5. When will the upcoming District Assembly be held?			
Answer:			
6. What is the Presidential theme of the Rotary year 2008-2009?			
Answer:			
7. Who will be our District Governor of the Rotary year 2008-2009?			
Answer:			
8. Who will be our Assistant Governor of Area 3 for the year 2008-2009?			
Answer:			
9. Who from our sister club Osaka Jonan visited us on 13th March 2008?			
Answer:			
Name: Email:			
[Sub mit]			

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

The Gingham Dress by Malcolm Forbes

A lady in a faded gingham dress and her husband, dressed in a homespun threadbare suit, stepped off the train in Boston, and walked timidly without an appointment into the Harvard University President's outer office.

The secretary could tell in a moment that such backwoods, country hicks had no business at Harvard & probably didn't even deserve to be in Cambridge.

- "We'd like to see the president," the man said softly.
- "He'll be busy all day," the secretary snapped.
- "We'll wait," the lady replied.

For hours the secretary ignored them, hoping that the couple would finally become discouraged and go away.

They didn't, and the secretary grew frustrated and finally decided to disturb the president, even though it was a chore she always regretted.

"Mavbe if you see them for a few minutes. thev'll leave." she said to him.

He sighed in exasperation and nodded. Someone of his importance obviously didn't have the time to spend with them, and he detested gingham dresses and homespun suits cluttering up his outer office.

The president, stern faced and with dignity, strutted toward the couple.

The lady told him, "We had a son who attended Harvard for one year. He loved Harvard. He was happy here. But about a year ago, he was accidentally killed. My husband and I would like to erect a memorial to him, somewhere on campus."

The president wasn't touched. He was shocked.

"Madam," he said, gruffly, "we can't put up a statue for every person who attended Harvard and died. If we did, this place would look like a cemetery." "Oh, no," the lady explained quickly. "We don't want to erect a statue. We thought we would like to give a building to Harvard."

The president rolled his eyes. He glanced at the gingham dress and homespun suit, then exclaimed, "A building! Do you have any earthly idea how much a building costs? We have over seven and a half million dollars in the physical buildings here at Harvard."

For a moment the lady was silent. The president was pleased. Maybe he could get rid of them now.

The lady turned to her husband and said quietly, "Is that all it cost to start a university? Why don't we just start our own?"

Her husband nodded. The president's face wilted in confusion and be wilderment.

Mr. and Mrs. Leland Stanford got up and walked away, traveling to Palo Alto, California where they established the university that bears their name, Stanford University, a memorial to a son that Harvard no longer cared about.

You can easily judge the character of others by how they treat those who they think can do nothing for them.

---- A TRUE STORY By Malcolm Forbes

Photographs of our meeting on

12th March, 2008



Hon. Sec. Norman Lee, Rtn Tony Loy & Rtn Eric Chin



PP John Kwok, PP Nick Pirie from Rotary Club of HK South & Pres. Laurence Chan



(L to R) Rtn Nancy Yee, Rotarianne Jennie Ma, Pres. Laurence Chan & SAA Heman Lam



(L to R) Rtn Peter Yeung, PP Rudy Law & PE Andy Wong



PP Nick Pirie from Rotary Club of HK South speaking to us about the District Leprosy Project



Rtn. Nancy Yee, PP Nick Pirie & Rotarianne Jennie Ma



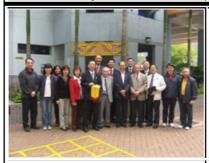
Group Photo with members, visiting guests & speaker



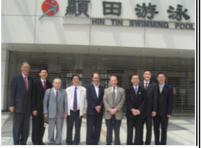
PDG Uncle Peter & PP Uncle John visit Choy Chun School



Principle Lee explained the function of different type of class rooms.



Group photo taken at the playground of the Choy Chun School



Group photo taken in front of the swimming pool building near Choi Chun School



Pres. Umezaki represents both clubs to formally donate the toys box to Playright's Ms Kathy Wong



Some of the toys inside this toy box.



Playright - Group picture of delegates from the Rotary Club of HK Island East



Playright - Group picture with Playright staff, volunteer workers and delegates from Rotary Clubs of Osaka Jonan and HK Island East

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