

Last week's Proceedings -

3rd March, 2010

The meeting started at 1:00pm and President Norman warmly greeted all attending members and guests, in particular PP Rudy who came back from Australia after Lunar New Year visit. He then invited members to introduce their guests, namely - Dir. Kevin who introduced speaker Anthony Wong Chau-sangs assistant Risin Wong; PP Rudy introduced Edmund Tam; HS Dr. Eric introduced William Wong; Rtn. Anthony Kwong introduced Miss Florence Cheung; PP Laurence introduced members from Rotaract Club of Lingnan University including Internal Vice President Joyce Ng Yuk Yin, Club Service Director Kathy Lee Ka Lam, International Service Director Florence Fong Chau Ngon, and Past IVP Kathy Ng Suen Lam.

PP Laurence then invited our Rotaractors to briefly talk about their programs for the coming year. ISD Florence reported that they are planning to organize a trip to Cambodia between 6-12 Jan 2011 tentatively to visit 4 orphanages there. After their visit to Sichuan, they believed Cambodia would be the most suitable place to visit as it is less developed due to incessant civil wars causing poverty. Children have been victims of the country's problem but as they are the hope and foundation of the future, loving cares are required. As their theme this year stipulate "We live as we love", ISD Florence believed that the participants would gain a great deal through this visit and explore the value and meaning of life. The visit will be co-organized with Happy Tree Social Services, and details would be announced later. [Happy Tree Social Services is a Hong Kong Registered Charitable Institution established in 2003. It is formed by a group of Hong Kong professionals from management, social services and medical sectors with an aim to help the weak, sick and poor and backed up by many volunteers.]

President Norman then presented a gift from District Governor Ada Cheng to our new member William Leung as a token for joining the Rotary family.

PE Heman was invited as the song leader in celebration of our birthday boys PP David Li and IPP Andy Wong; birthday gifts were presented and a special birthday cake was also arranged by Rtn. Teresa Ho.

Special announcements were as follows:

1. A delegate, led by President Norman, will attend the 50th Anniversary of our sister club Rotary Club of Kawasaki South on 8th April, and if any members interested, please contact IPP Andy for air tickets and hotel arrangement;

2. Just received invitation from another sister club of ours, Rotary Club of Niigata, for their 70th Anniversary on 23rd April. Should there be any members who could arrange to visit them, please contact HS Dr. Eric.

Acting SAA HT Colin reported the red box collection to be HK\$1,600 and thanked all contributors.

Dir. Kevin then proceeded to the podium and introduced speaker Anthony Wong Chau-sang. Anthony Wong Chau-sang, a veteran profession in the Hong Kong Film industry is a talented and versatile Actor, Screenwriter and Director who has played over 200 films. Since 1980s, Anthony started his professional actor career in many award-winning movies. Anthony has received numerous awards in The Hong Kong Films Awards, Taiwan Golden Horse Award, Hong Kong Film Critics Awards and Asia Pacific Films Festivals. His breakthrough record included winning the Best Actor Award in the Hong Kong Films Awards for 6 times. Dir. Kevin then invited HS Dr. Eric to accompany Anthony Wong to the rostrum to shared his personal view and experience in this fascinating film industry in the "Rotary - Be my guest" setting.

As the host, HS Dr. Eric began with the following questions:

	How did your studying in HK Academy for Performing Arts (APA) and the performance in TVB inspire your career development in the Filming Industry?
A.	Just like in life, if we put our hearts into it, we quite often move forward in the direction that we want; this is the same with our professions. The experience and learning in ATV, APA and TVB has widened my perspectives and prepared me for different aspects of my performances as an actor, with TV series, films as well as staging live in theatrical performances. We need to excel in both theories and actual performance, just like a medical doctor who is both an excellent GP and Surgeon.
Q.	As the Best Star for 6 times in the Hong Kong Films Award, Anthony normally appeared as an actor of some mentally unbalanced characters. For Example, in the "The Untold Story", Anthony played a real-life serial killer who made human meat buns out of his victims) leading him shot to stardom. How can one fathom the role in these play successfully?
A.	I have already lost track of the number of awards that I've won, may be around 13or so. On the topic of how I fathom the role, we learned a little Psychology in classes that taught us how to act. In acting, we act out a person's characteristic; as nobody is absolutely perfect, there is always a dark side of a person, which we would draw ideas from. In the human world, there would always be areas of dissatisfaction, and behavior that is twisted. In the role of a killer, we don't need to kill another person in order to have firsthand experience, one have quite often experienced hatred in another person, or killing an insect, that feeling and experience can be transferred and magnified.
	Quite often we read from newspaper that certain actor/actress have deeply engaged into a character in a movie and cannot disengage from it; as a professional actor, we should be able to "in" and "out" of a role at ease.
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Q	You actively participated in the filming of movies in PRC, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Furthermore, Anthony won many awards such as the Best Support Actor in the Golden Horse Awards by "Internal Affairs". How did you rate the standard of performance of the production people and actors in these three regions?
A	In our industry, as well as in others, I believe the quality of the individuals place a very key part in the success factor. Before 1997, I was already working in mainland China, at the time, the Chinese production team would take almost a year to complete the production of a movie, the Hong Kong movie makers would train their assistant directors, logistics, etc. In the early days, it was said that Hong Kong Film Industry is a culture industry, but quite often the people involved did not live up to the cultural standard. Film making industry produces commercial movies, with topics quite often involved triads and imprisonment, which was quite monotonous. Owing to the fact that the economy was blooming, the movie industry provided for a lot of people who does not have their heart in the industry. After 1997, as the economy slowed down, the movie industry went with it, hence it retrenched a lot of people and only those who put in efforts to excel retained. The difference between mainland China and Hong Kong in movies and TV series production, and in particular Beijing and Shanghai, is that the mainland China production team has deep root in Chinese mastery, political sensitivity and have thoughts and ideas; Hong Kong people are known for their flexibility and efficiency. However, in the nowadays China, lazy culture is escalating, and there is a culture gap due to the Culture Revolution, and hence some of the Chinese cultures would need to be re-taught. The movie industry in China is of tenths of billions, much bigger than US, it's ridiculously huge, but those involved in the industry doesn't know what to do to build it up. Hong Kong productions can play a vital part in helping China to develop it's film industry.
Q	Could you share with us any interesting and fantastic experience in your filming career?
A	The filming of a movie is very boring, we often have to sit and wait for hours just to shoot our parts, it was said that Richard Gere learnt 4 musical instruments at performance level just by utilizing the waiting hours. When filming in China, I reckon team synergy is very important, without it, it feels like torture; it is also very important to take care of oneself, down to the very primitive things, such as clothing, food, daily necessities and commuting. In China, the production team often does not respect the actors, in particular the extra talents, they often get scold by foul languages, and sometimes have to stand and wait for 12 hours for their part.
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	Members and guests began asking questions as follows:
Q	Would you consider it highly competitive to be accepted into APA?

A	I wasn't worried not being accepted by APA, I only wanted desperately to get in, I was passionate about getting in and learn, and I did my very best during the interview. I only knew afterwards that there were a lot of applicants for the vacancies available. We understood that the selection was not very keen as they only selected those with acting experience, and in particular theatrical acting
Q	It seems that a lot of the seasoned actors went into China to make a living, what is your opinion on this?
A	Mainland China has a huge market, they have different regional segments. Each province and city has their own TV stations, one could make a living from one province to another. It is in general that the fad has a delay of 20 years compared to Hong Kong, and it will be my turn to get famous in China in later years.
Q	In acting, there are a lot of psychology involved, as a normal person, how do you fathom the character, and what state of mind did you have?
A	When I played the role as a serial killer in "The Untold Story", I was very resenting the character, but because I signed the contract, as a professional actor, I have to play the role to my very best. The date of shooting was two days away from Halloween, so I thought it would be a wonderful Halloween present to Hong Kong people. In movie these days, the dubbing was done during post-synchronization, so during shooting, quite often we cracked jokes. I had the luck of very good partners at the time. In another movie, I had the chance of actually undergone a therapy for myself, and eliminated a childhood nightmare for myself. The Hong Kong movie industry is very slow to change, once the character you played received public acceptance, you would have the chance of playing it again and again.
Q	Is the salary in the movie industry very low?
A	The salary for actors usually fluctuates a great deal, depending on how sought-after you are.
Q	People usually say the Hong Kong Government doesn't support the movie industry, what is your view on this?
A	The Hong Kong Government does not know the industry at all, even though they may want to help. When Batman was filmed in Hong Kong, HK Government gave them great support and green light everywhere for their filming; but as to local movie makers, there are a lot of red tapes with different HKSAR government departments and their interruption during filming would cost them a lot of money.
	The Hong Kong movie industry lacked ingenuity, when one storyline was successful, other movie makers would just use it and produce a lot more of it until people get tired of it. This is very sad for our industry.

Rtn. William Leung was invited to thank our speaker Anthony Wong and President Norman presented him with a gift and a photo of our speaker in action as a token of appreciation, he also thanked HS Dr. Eric for hosting the session.

President Norman then announced that our speaker for next week would be representatives from the Rotaract Club of the Lingnan University who would report their visit to Sichuan.

President Norman then made a toast to RI coupled with Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East. There being no other businesses, the luncheon meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm. All participants were invited for a group photo.

Rotary Potpourri

Help Rotary Grow and Create a Better Future

During its June meeting, the Rotary International Board adopted a new membership slogan, "Each Rotarian : Reach One, Keep One." This slogan emphasizes the importance of both recruitment and retention in sustaining and increasing membership.

To support this strategy, RI administers a web-based program designed to assist clubs and districts with identifying prospective members and to place relocating or former Rotarians in new clubs. Every Rotarian can directly support Rotary's membership growth and retention by using the membership referral and Rotarian relocation forms.

The <u>membership referral form</u> is for Rotarian wishing to recommend a qualified friend, family member, or business associate as a potential candidate for membership in a Rotary

club other than their own.

Rotarians who are moving or have moved and can't remain in their current club can submit the relocation form to learn more about clubs in their new area. Club secretaries and other club members should remind relocating club members to complete the form to request assistance becoming acquainted with clubs in their destination city.

Once the forms are submitted, RI staff review them and sends valid, complete forms to district governors and/or district membership chairs for evaluation and further action. Potential members are either directly contacted by district governors or district membership chairs or referred to the appropriate club president for follow up. Rotarians have been enthusiastic about leads from the program.

Help Rotarians learn about RI's membership program by placing a banner ad on your club or district's website or blog. These ads direct prospective members, relocating Rotarians, and current members to the appropriate form on RI's website.

Don't let great candidates for membership pass you by. Encourage club members to become familiar with Rotary's membership program to enhance your club and district membership efforts. Club presidents and club secretaries should pay more attention to this measure.

Electronic Make-up Questions

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

Name:

Email:

1. Who was being welcomed back today ? Ans) 2. Who have brought visiting guests to our luncheon today ? Ans) 3. Who were our birthday boys celebrated today Ans) 4. Which of our sister clubs are going to celebrate their 50th and 70th Anniversary this year ? Ans) 5. What was the Red Box collection today ? Ans) 6. Who was our speaker today and what was the topic about ? Ans) 7. Who were asked to introduce and to thank our speaker today Ans) 8. Who would be invited to talk to us on the next luncheon meeting ? Anel Submit

Joke

Subject: Enjoy

I was in the restaurant yesterday when I suddenly realized I desperately needed to pass gas. The music was really, <u>really</u> loud, so I timed my gas with the beat of the music.

After a couple of songs, I started to feel better. I finished my coffee, and noticed that everybody was staring at me....

Then I suddenly remembered that I was listening to my iPod.

Photographs of our meeting

<u>on</u>

3rd March, 2010







Rtn. Tony Loy, PP Laurence Chan, Rtn. Anthony Kwong & his guest Florence Cheung

Rotaractor Florence Fong gave us a brief report on their incoming International Service projects



Pres. Norman presented birthday gifts to two birthday boys, PP David Li & IPP Andy Wong. PE Heman Lam led the birthday song



Birthday cake cutting ceremony from the two birthday boys (IPP Andy & PP David) with Pres. Norman Lee





Dir Kevin Leung introduced the guest speaker of week

Hon. Sec. Dr. Eric Chin act as MC to interview the famous actor Mr. Anthony Wong Chau Sang



Mr. Anthony Wong shared with us his passion Pres. Norman Lee thanked Mr. Anthony Wong as an actor



as our guest of honor for this week's luncheon



Hon. Sec. Dr. Eric Chin & Rotaractor Kathy Ng from Lingnan University



Pres. Norman Lee with other club members with the Rotaractors from Lingnan University



Group photos with members, guest speaker, Rotaractors & guests

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