

### Last Week's Proceedings – 7th March, 2012

President Eric welcomed his guests of Dr. Eric Chu, Dr. Alfred Tsang and our prospective new member Terry Tsang, together with the luncheon speaker, Dr. Norman Law.

Welcome back to SAA William Leung, who also reported the red box collection of the day was HK\$1,400.

President Eric made for the following announcement:

#### Key Services and Event in March :

March 2 evening - PP Andrew Golf Dinner attended by 18 Members and Rotaractors in L'Hotel South.

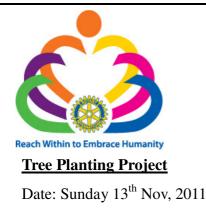
March 10, 2012 AM – 3rd Electrical Appliances delivered to poor family, PIC William Wong

March 11, Support our THE ONE Candidate Benson Pau's Foundation charity walk for 3 km in Tai Po: Pres. Eric, Christine, Ivan and William Wong and Fanny will join. Please consider to sponsor for the walk.

March 14: Four New members to be inducted: Terry Tsang, Nelson Tse, Miranda Chin, Joseph Tse.

#### District Event

District Conference on May 19-20, Regal Airport Hotel. Enrolment of early bird must be before March 15, online registration will be at HK\$ 1700. Club would sponsor maximum 8 members, cost to be evenly distributed if there were more paid up registrations.



#### THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST LTD. 香港東區扶輪社週報

Club 16340 District 3450 Chartered on 06 April, 1954 by Charter President PDG (Uncle) John Yuen

#### Club Visit to RC Osaka Jonan April 5 – 9 (to be postponed)

The visit will be postponed as Pres. Eric has to stay in HK to attend the sign ceremony of RAAS with Holy Carpenter Secondary School on April 6, 2012. Proposed Future Visit will be arranged on May 24 – 28, 2012.

For the weekly Rotary 123, by Training Chair PP Eddy Wong: the topic was "District Conference vs District Assembly"

District Assembly to be held on April 28 this year – to be:

- An occasion for the Incoming District Governor to elaborate incoming RI theme and RI Presidents to all incoming Club officers.
- To provide training to respective Club Officers by related District team members and discussion for common goals in the coming term of office.
- To discuss and adopt incoming Rotary year District Budget by all incoming Club Presidents.

District Conference to be held on May 19-20 this year :

- To provide opportunities for new members networking, inspirational addresses, and discussions of Rotary-related matters.
- To recognize the service programs, projects and public achievements in the district in order to inspire Rotarians to become more involved in service. Suitable for all Rotarians to join in order to know more about what has been happened and achieved in current Rotary Year.
- Online registration can be done through the link of <u>http://www.dc2012.rotary3450.org/</u>

Rtn Dennis Wat made a welcome to our luncheon speaker, Dr. Norman Law – who was head of financial management at Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited and co-author of the book: "The Development of Banking Industry in China – from late Qing Dynasty till Present".

Dr. Law believed that the banking systems of mainland China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong were relatively stable since the financial crises triggered by the U.S. sub-prime lending upheaval in 2008. Nevertheless, his review of the Chinese development history of banking industry from hindsight was interesting and worth considering, a possibly good lesson for our investment experience.

- Chinese adopted barter system until the period immediately preceding Qin dynasty (221-206 BC). The Qin Empire began to unify all currencies, prior to that most people used various currencies made of farming tools. China was possibly the first nation to use paper money in the Song dynasty (AD 960-1279), demonstrating its advanced monetary system at that time.
- China adopted remittance system for trade in Tang dynasty (AD 618-907), which was later further developed by the Shanxi merchants in Qing dynasty (AD 1644-1911). The Shanxi merchants were well known for their integrity and trustworthiness. Many successful traders getting rich in the Republic of China era (after 1911) came from Shanxi province.

- The westerners set up foreign banks in China after the signing of Nanking treaty in 1842. The British merchants established the Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) here in 1865 and being the pioneers in the development of Hong Kong banking activities.
- In 1905, China set up her first government bank, the Bank of Ministry of Finance, which was later renamed as Bank of Ta Ching, and took up the roles of a central bank such as currency issuance and treasury management. After 1911 Revolution, it was renamed and gave birth to the Bank of China.

Dr. Law remarked that after the founding of People's Republic of China in 1949, all banks in China were nationalized and their roles were reduced to acting as cashier and paying agent of the government.

Until 1979, Deng Xiao-ping provided a vision and instructed the State Council to transform the banks in China into "real banks" so as to serve the modernization cause of China.

In fact the major transformation of Chinese banks took place in 2003 in the forms of capital injection, restructuring, change of shareholding, and public listing. In the course of banking reform, they set up systems relating to risk management and corporate governance.

Now all major banks of China have become publicly listed companies and are subject to listing rules and conformed to the international banking practices. At the same time, the major banks of China have gone beyond the domestic boundary and start branching out into the global markets.

With the rapid growth of China's economic strength, its currency, Chinese Yuan (Renminbi), is now being actively used in bi-lateral trades and gradually on the way to becoming an international currency. The process will be gradual and Hong Kong might play an important part in this endeavour.

The State Council has designated Shanghai as China's financial center. Shanghai will compete with Hong Kong in various aspects. However, both Shanghai and Hong Kong have their distinct strengths and each might have her own irreplaceable roles as China' financial centers.

The economic integration of mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong is taking shape. Currently, Mainland China is very receptive to Taiwanese investment, and Hong Kong has close links with both mainland China and Taiwan, therefore it will continue to be a driving force for the integration process of the Greater China financial activities in the future.

PP Hubert thanked Dr. Norman Law for his informative speech and the audience responded warmly with our usual Rotary manners.

For the next week program, there would be an induction ceremony for four prospective members and the luncheon speaker would be none other than our own PP Norman - "Software new development for food and beverage industry".

President Eric made a toast of RI coupled with the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East.

The guests and members stayed for a group photo and the luncheon meeting was adjourned on time.

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After a very productive and fulfilling month of service projects (February was very busy!), the dinner on March  $2^{nd}$  offered Rotarians a social setting to celebrate fellowship. Those in attendance were:

Pres.Eric Chin, PP Andrew Chen, PP John Kwok, PP Norman Lee, PP Rudy Law, Rtns Jonah Cheung, Kevin Leung, Peter Yeung, Tony Hau, Teresa Ho, Stacy Ho and guest Pres. Bonnie Wong of Rotary Club of Kowloon Tong and our new candidates for membership Joseph Tse and his wife Karen and Nelson Tse. We were graced by the presence of Christine Chin, wife of President Eric. Immediate Past International Service Director of Lingnan University Rotaractor and current Com-based Rotaractor Service Chair Lisa Chow and Com-based Rotaractor Service Chair Myra Shen also joined the dinner.

The dinner was hosted at the L'Hotel Island South, in a function room. The function room was grand, equipped with a jumbo screen for Karaoke, many comfy sofas and a large dining table (to seat 20 people).

Before dinner, President Eric and PP Andrew both gave informal speeches to welcome everyone and start the dinner. During dinner, Rotaractor Lisa shared her presentation about her recent IS service trip to Vietnam in Jan 2012. The presentation was colourful and insightful, the Lingnan Rotaractors all had life changing experiences, experiences in which they realized the value of our Rotarian motto of, "Service before Self." Lisa recounted stories of the activities the rotaractors planned, and the children's happy responses.

#### **Reflection on the Vietnam Service Trip by Lisa**

Being both of the leader as well as a participant in the 7-day service trip in Vietnam, not only did I learn the leadership skill, but also I learned the true meaning of caring and loving for this world. We have never been able to think of the cold, hunger and hard until we got along with the underprivileged children in Vietnam who have not enough food to eat nor enough clothes to wear. It was the greatest opportunity for the lucky young generation to rethink of what they had already had and started to cherish them instead of taking everything for granted. It was important for young people to be aware of this in order to fight for themselves, care for others and be able to make this world a better place. What's more, it was also a good chance for a young leader to apply his leadership skill into practice and learn from the experience. Only when we are willing to step out and take the responsibility, can we feel and learn something on our own.

Following the reflection on the Vietnam Service Trip by Lisa Rotaractor Myra shared her presentation about her leadership training course. She was very descriptive as to which skill-building activities she participated in, the obstacles and upheavals. In the end of her presentation she pointed out that she learnt to be more optimistic and to think more positively. Myra thanked Rotary Club of HKIE for the opportunity and expressed that she now understands the qualities and attributes of leadership.

#### **Reflection of RYLA from Myra**

Rotary Youth Leadership Award is an intensive training program for community youth leaders. This training gives young adults an opportunity to listen and exchange ideas with other outstanding community and student leaders. I was told that Rotary leadership is to show the world that a better future is possible anywhere and everywhere and that generosity of spirit, tolerance for differences and high moral values are not obstacles to success but the path to success. It should not only be influencing others to accomplish an objective; or to successfully convince your followers, but lead the way through careful planning, honest cooperation and hard work to a better world. Be positive when you make mistakes, stay open-minded to welcome peer's comments and inspirational feedback. When you truly know yourself more, you can own more responsibilities and strengthen yourself in more aspects. I believe RYLA provided me a chance to do some self-reflection, and think about what leadership means. After RYLA, I make good use of what I learnt in my everyday life.

The dinner menu was impressive, it was a mix-match between eastern and western cuisine, so much so that attendees switched between chopsticks and cutlery throughout the meal. The most notable dish was steamed garoupa – each person was served a plate-size garoupa!

After the dinner, the PP Andrew Cup Prize Presentation began, with the following results (however many of the prize winners were not present so we just gave the following prizes and will give the rest later at our normal meeting of our club): Pres. Bonnie – Longest Drive Rotarian Kevin – the Lowest Net Score Rotarian Jonah – Booby Prize

Following the prize presentation was the Karaoke session, in which lots of Rotarians showed their musical talents and sang their favourite tunes.

Overall it was a fantastic evening filled with laughter and fun, yet another chance to build strong fellowship in our Rotary Club of HKIE.

#### EAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Subject: Clever dad.

A teenager had just passed his driving test and inquired of his father as to when they could discuss his use of the car.

His father said he'd make a deal with his son: 'You bring your grades up from a C to a B average, study your bible and get your hair cut and then we will talk about the car'.

The boy thought about it for a moment and decided he'd settle for the offer, and they agreed on it.

After about six weeks his father said, 'Son you've bought your grades and I have observed that you have been studying your bible but I am disappointed that you have not cut your hair'.

The boy said, 'You know dad, I've been thinking about that, I've noticed in my studies of the bible that Samson had long hair, John the Baptist had long hair, Moses had long hair and there's even strong evidence that Jesus had long hair'.

Your going to love dad's reply:

Did you also notice that they all walked everywhere they went?



YEAR 2011-2012							
President	Vice Pres Presiden		Secretary	Treasurer	Ex-O	fficio	Advisor
Dr. Eric Chin	Nancy	Yee .	Jonathan Lamport	Dr. Rudy Lav	w Hema	n Lam	Peter Hall
Directors:							PP Council Rep
Laurence Chan	John Kwok	Sharor	Lamport Norr	nan Lee Kevi	in Leung A	ndy Wong	Andrew Chen
Service Chairs:							
Paul Chan	Colin Chau	Teresa Ho	Anthony Kwong	William Leung	Eddy Wong	William Wong	Dr. Freddie Wu

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ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST MEETS EVERY WEDNESDAY, 12:30 p.m.

## **Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East** 07 March 2012 - Luncheon Meeting





PDG Uncle Peter, Guest speaker - Dr. Norman Law & Pres. Eric Chin

Visiting guest, Dr. Eric Chu, Dr. Alfred Tsang Rtn. Dr. Dennis Wat



about Banking system in China



Guest speaker Dr. Norman Law talked about the Banking System from Ching Dynasty to Present in China



Dr. Norman Law also autographed his book for our members. The book is about the China Banking History





Pres. Eric Chin presented a Club souvenir to thank Dr. Norman Law's interesting talk

PP Hubert Chan gave a vote of thanks to our speaker on behalf of the Club



Group photo with members, guest speaker & visiting guests.

# 2012-03-02 PP Andrew Cup Prize Presentation cum Spring Dinner Con a 12 Rotary Youth Leadership A Once in a Lifetime



# 2012-03-02 PP Andrew Cup Prize Presentation cum Spring Dinner