

Last Week's Proceedings (27th April, 2005)

Visiting Rotarian: President Rudy welcomed visiting Rotarian Benny Ratnani of Rotary Club of Hong Kong Northeast.

Announcement: PP John Kwok announced that Inter City Meeting for District 3450 with dinner reception will be hosted by our Club in honour of Carlo Ravizza, Chairman and Trustee of Rotary Foundation and Rotary International Past President and will be held on 18th May 2005 at Miramar Hotel, Kowloon, Hong Kong, and at which Inter City Meeting the Past RI President will present to our PDG Y.K. Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his service in Rotary.

Red Box Collection: PDG Uncle Peter reported that the collection of the day was HK\$450.

Speaker of the day: PP John Yau introduced our Speaker Ir. Dr. Nicolas S.Y. Yeung, Chairman, Convenor and Director of the Construction Industry Institute of Hong Kong.

Dr. Nicolas Yeung indicated that the construction industry is one of the main pillars of Hong Kong's economy. The Construction Industry Institute, Hong Kong ("CII-HK") is a non-political, not-for-profit organization established to offer solution-oriented strategies for the advancement of the construction industry in Hong Kong, and to (amongst other things) perform a bridging function between the construction industry of Hong Kong and the academia which carrying extensive research for further and continuous improvement in the operations of the construction industry and in the quality of its products. The Construction Industry Review Committee recognizes (amongst other things) research as a key driver to steadily improve the overall performance of the construction industry through technology upgrading, and investment in construction research should be significantly increased to promote an innovation culture in the construction industry. Membership of CII includes most major developers and construction companies on the Construction Industry side, various departments and authorities of the Government of Hong Kong (including Hong Kong Housing Society and the Buildings Department), University of Hong Kong, City University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology on the academia side.

Several research projects have been initiated by the CII-HK members, including project partnering, construction standards and healthy buildings:

- (a) The first research project funded by the CII-HK was entitled "Comparative study of project partnering practices in the public and private sectors of Hong Kong", which aims "to conduct a comprehensive comparative study of partnering practices between public and private sectors based on some cited partnering projects recently completed in Hong Kong". The project officially commenced in March 2003 and has been completed. It is expected that the final report of this project will be made available very soon;
- (b) The second project funded by the CII-HK has invited research proposals from both local and overseas interested parties, and was entitled "The Feasibility of Establishing Construction Standards for Hong Kong", with a view to conducting "a feasibility study on the possible pros and cons of establishing standards for the Hong Kong construction industry, leading possibly to the eventual formulation of strategies for implementation"; and
- (c) In response to the health crisis caused by the outbreak of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), a research initiative on "Solutions implementation for healthy buildings in Hong Kong" to comprehensively study the related issues that affect design, management and maintenance strategy, government control and usage of healthy buildings and living environments.

Votes of Thanks to Speaker: President Rudy thanked our Speaker Ir. Dr. Nicolas S.Y. Yeung for his very interesting and informative speech, and presented Ir. Dr. Nicolas S.Y. Yeung with a picture of our speaker in action as a token of our appreciation.

Next week's program: Meeting Adjourned: President Rudy proposed a toast to Rotary International coupled with Rotary Club of Hong Kong Northeast.

Rotary Information

What is the difference between "Citation for Meritorious Service" and "Distinguished Service Award" presented by TRF trustees?

The two special awards of recognition occasionally are presented by the trustees of The Rotary Foundation to Rotarians who render

outstanding service to the Rotary Foundation. The Rotary Foundation Citation for Meritorious Service recognizes significant and dedicated service by Rotarian to promote the programmes of The Rotary Foundation and thus advance the Foundation's goal of better understanding and friendly relations among people of the world.

The second award, called the Distinguished Service Award, is presented to a Rotarian whose outstanding record service to The Rotary Foundation is on a much broader basis and spreads beyond the district level and continues over an extended period of time. The Distinguished Service Award acknowledges the sustained efforts of a Rotarian who has already received the Citation of Meritorious Service, for continuing efforts to promote internationally understanding.

Both of these select awards are presented for exemplary personal service and devotion to the Foundation rather than for financial contributions. No more than 50 such awards are granted by the trustees in any one year and there is only on recipient of a Citation for Meritorious Service in any district each year. A recipient of the Citation for Meritorious Service is not eligible for nomination for a Distinguished Service Award until four or more years have elapsed. It is a very proud distinction for any Rotarian to be selected for one of these high levels of recognition by The Rotary Foundation trustees.

There were already two members of the R/C of HK Island East received such an high honour, viz., PDG John Yuen and PDG Peter Hall. We are proud to learn that PDG Y K Cheng of our club will be receiving the "Distinguished Service Award" on the 18th May 2005 from the hands of TRF trustees chairman, Carlo Ravizza, past RI President in the year 1999-2000.

Joke & Cartoon

The business

Steve had suffered from blinding headaches for many years, since his late teens. He decided to try one last time to remedy his situation, and went to see a headache specialist.

The doctor said, "Good news is I can cure your headaches. The bad news is that it will require castration. You have a very rare condition, which causes your testicles to press up against the base of your spine and the pressure creates one hell of a headache. The only way to relieve the pressure is to remove the testicles."

Steve was shocked and depressed. He wondered if he had anything to live for. He couldn't concentrate enough to answer, but decided he had no choice but to go under the knife.

When he left the hospital he was without a headache for the first time in 20 years, but he felt like he was missing an important part of himself. As he walked down the street, he realized that he felt like a different person. He could make a new beginning and live a new life. He saw a men's clothing store and thought, "That's what I need a new suit."

Ste ve entered the shop and told the salesman, "I'd like a new suit." The elderly tailor eyed him briefly and said, "Let's see ... size 44 long."

Steve' laughed, "That's right, how did you know?"

"Been in the business 60 years!"

Steve tried on the suit. It fit perfectly. As Steve admired himself in the mirror, the salesman asked, "How about a new shirt?"

Steve thought for a moment and then said, "Sure."

The salesman eyed Steve and said, "Let's see .. 34 sleeve and 16 and a half neck."

Steve was surprised, "That's right, how did you know?"

"Been in the business 60 years!"

Steve tried on the shirt, and it fit perfectly. As Steve adjusted the collar in the mirror, the salesman asked, "How about new shoes?"

Steve was on a roll and said, "Sure."

The salesman eyed Steve's feet and said, "Let's see... 9-1/2 E."

Steve was astonished, "That's right, how did you know?"

"Been in the business 60 years!"

Steve tried on the shoes and they fit perfectly. As Steve walked comfortably around the shop the salesman asked, "How about some new underwear?"

Steve thought for a second and said, "Sure."

The salesman stepped back, eyed Steve's waist and said, "Let's see size 36."

Steve laughed, "Ah ha! I got you! I've worn size 32 since I was 18 years old."

The salesman shook his head, "You can't we ar a size 32. A 32 underwear would press your testicles up against the base of your spine and give you one hell of a headache."

HAROLD'S PLANET by Swerling and Lazar



Photographs of our meeting

on

27th April, 2005



Our guest speaker was IR. Dr. Nicholas S.Y. Yeung who spoke to us on " Construction Industry Institute -Hong Kong (CII-HK)".





(L to R) IPP Henry, Dr Tony, PP JL, Rtn Alex and Dir Paul Chan.



(L to R) Visiting Rtn Benny Ratnani (HKNE), Rtn John V, and Dir Andy.



Hon Sec John making his announcement concerning our Intercity Meeting which our club will sponsor on the 18th of May, 2005



Group Photo of our meeting with PDG Uncle Peter, Pres. Rudy, and visiting Rotarian and our members on the 27th of April, 2005

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