



東風



# TUNG FENG

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

## Last week's Proceedings -

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2008

President Laurence started the meeting at 1:18 pm with 20 members and guests attending. After President Laurence introduced his wife Jennie and PE Andy introduced his guest, Ms Wu Wing-ye, to us our guests received a big round of applause from our members.

Today we have our birthday boy, John Yao, who has chosen Uncle John Kwok as the song leader and we all sang the birthday song to greet him after President Laurence presented him a birthday gift.

President Laurence reported that we have had an enjoyable Golf event held on last Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, on the newly constructed East Course of the Kau Sau Chau Public Golf Course followed by a delicious seafood dinner at Sai Kung in the same evening. We have altogether 20 participants including 12 members, 6 Rotarians and 2 guests attended. President Laurence proposed a vote of thanks to Director Eric Chin for the very successfully organized fellowship event.

SAA Heman Lam reported the Red box collection of the day was HK\$1,500.

Uncle John Kwok then introduced to us the speaker of the day, Mr. Anthony Tong, a Board Member of the Amity Foundation Hong Kong Office. Mr. Tong's talk was about the work of Amity with particular reference to their plan to build 100 model clinics in the poorest areas in Guizhou, China. The talk was summarized as below:

<sup>a</sup> Despite the commonly held view that China is on her way to becoming a superpower, the poverty level in some parts in the Mainland merit our concern.

The anecdotal images of people living in caves in Sha' anxi or the poor whose prized possessions are no more than a cow and a calf evoke our sympathy.

The following salient statistics are but some of the more obvious ones that would put Amity Foundation's work in perspective:

- 64% of China is rural
- Agriculture accounts for only 12% of the GDP, in contrast to Industry 49% and Services 39%
- the 64% rural community could only share 20% of public health resources
- school fees for Qinghua university is ¥10,000 p.a., which puts it out of reach for poor peasants whose income for 13 years barely meets this amount
- her Gini's coefficient was reported to be 0.472 in 2004 and increasing

In response to this need, Amity Foundation started in 1985 by a group of Christians when there was no longer the fear that Christianity was addictive like opium. Our aim has been to contribute to China's development and openness, to make Christianity better known and to encourage cross-cultural exchange. The Headquarters were established in Nanjing but the main source of funding has been from overseas church organizations.

After 23 years of solid service to the society, Amity remains to be the only recognized faith-based Non-Profit-Making organization in China. Moreover, in recognition of the reliable, accountable and sustainable manner in which our projects have been conducted, Amity was awarded the top prize by the Central Government for poverty reduction in 2007. It is also relevant to point out that Amity is the only large scale establishment that can print the Holy Bible in China, and the total numbers printed so far exceeds 50 million copies.

The main strands of our work pervade education, health, HIV-AIDS support, integrated rural development, education for children of special needs, blindness prevention, support for orphans.

In education, we work with local communities in the West to run technical education for farmers, literacy classes for adult women, arrange overseas English teachers to teach in colleges of education. In health, our main thrust is to help barefoot doctors to acquire basic medical knowledge, build village clinics and fight against recalcitrant diseases like tuberculosis. For AIDS and HIV sufferers, predominantly found in the Yunnan and Henan Provinces, our support goes to help families as well and in large measure aware and education programmes are helping to prevent the disease or remove social discrimination against families.

Integrated rural development is a multi-pronged approach in helping villages to improve. Examples include irrigations systems, floor prevention, biogas and solar energy to help obviate the need for wood cutting or charcoal burning which harms the environment. Or it could be micro-financing to the poor who come to us with good "business" plans for making a living with seed money provided. These projects epitomize the Amity spirit for supporting environmentally friendly and sustainable development. The other examples of our empowerment include our support for orphans and people of disabilities. Through giving them some life skills or marketable skills we enable these groups to stand on their feet.

Focusing in depth on one of our projects, it was pointed out that we are planning to build 100 village clinics for the Counties Majiang, Jianhe and Shengong in Guizhou Province, which is one of the poorest in China. In brief, money raised in Hong Kong will help to build direly needed clinics in these counties which we have come to appreciate as some of the most proactive ones in that province. The current estimates show that each of these would cost ¥54,000 of which sum the local government would foot ¥10,000 with the remaining ¥44,000 being raised in Hong Kong. By so doing we also hope to bring Hong Kong expertise to bear of the medical needs in these areas. Once these clinics have shown to function as a staunch first line of defense, then they could be models for other counties and provinces, thereby seeding concepts for long-term improvements.

Reviewing the present clinics, we have found them housed mostly in the barefoot doctors' own homes. The physical structures as evident from our recent visits are appalling. The lack of resources means most of these clinics have unhygienic conditions not suited for running a general medical practice. For instance, their basic equipment set, some dating back 25 years to the Cultural Revolution days, is usually limited to one thermometer, one stethoscope and one blood pressure gauge. The village doctor has to sleep in the same bed where s/he examines patients in the day time. The medicine and pharmaceutical products used are rudimentary and usually not protected from heat, humidity or dust. All told, the risk of epidemic outbreak is heightened. The encouraging aspect of all these is that doctors are usually dedicated to their patients and the health officials are keen for improvement.

Based on our experience in ensuring transparency and accountability, we are confident that monies donated will benefit the villagers. In addition, funds transfer will not be effected until we have examined and are satisfied with the finished structures. Of course, the public participation of the officials, villagers and the barefoot doctors will go a long way to ensuring accountability for the donated dollars.

It is encouraging to note that since the project saw daylight in January, 20 clinics have already been pledged.

Individuals or organizations interested in knowing more about this clinic project and other programmes, or Amity's work in general are invited to log onto our website: [www.amityfoundation.org](http://www.amityfoundation.org).

After several rounds of keen questions and answers from our members President Laurence thanked our speaker. We gave a big round of applause to our speaker.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03pm with a toast to RI coupled with Rotary Clubs of Hong Kong and Hong Kong Island East.

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## Rotary Potpourri

The 48<sup>th</sup> District Assembly of district 3450 was held on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2008 at Shatin Club House of the Hong Kong Jockey Club when more than 300 participants attended, including Rotarians from Macau. This event was co-organized by Rotary clubs in Area 8, namely,

Rotary Club of Kowloon West  
Rotary Club of Kowloon East  
Rotary Club of Kwun Tong  
Rotary Club of Kowloon Northwest  
Rotary Club of Kowloon North East  
Rotary Club of Kingspark, Hong Kong  
Rotary Club of Financial Centre and  
E-Club of district 3450.

Under the chairmanship of PP Thomas Chan who kicked off the assembly by giving a warm welcome remark followed by D.G. Peter Wong who called the meeting to order with an opening address. The most encouraging announcement by D.G. Peter Wong was that The Rotary Foundation had granted US\$300,000. - for the Hepatitis-B district project of district 3450 in Handan City, Hebei, mainland China, under the 3-H grant. The district had committed this Hepatitis-B Immunization project for ten years since January 2003.

Incoming District Governor Albert Wong touched on the 2008-2009 RI theme - Make Dreams Real, while PDG Jason Yeung explained the formation of the Foundation Alumni.

PP Kenneth also gave a detailed explanation of DSG (District Simplified Grant) through a Power Point equipment.

With a short coffee break, the gathering was breakout into several sessions, such as

- Presidents-Elect, Assistant Governors and Deputy Assistant Governors to focusing on leadership, Public Speaking and strategic planning,
- Club Secretaries, Treasurers, & Club Administration committee members,
- Membership and New Clubs,
- Service Projects
- The Rotary Foundation
- Public Relations.

The high light of the Assembly was the voting of the 2008-2009 district budget by all the attending Presidents-Elect. After answering some questions from the floor and the Presidents-Elect by DGE Albert Wong, the incoming District Treasurer Peter Choy as well as PDG Anthony Hung, the proposed budget was put to vote by the Presidents-Elect present. By majority, the following budget was approved by the group of Presidents-Elect as follows:

IT ISOLVED by the Presidents-Elect at the 48th District Assembly of RI District 3450 that the annual per capita levy for 2008-2009 shall be

- HK\$1500 for each Rotarian of Clubs in Hong Kong
- HK\$1150 for each Rotarian of clubs in Macau
- HK\$335 for each Rotarian of clubs in Mongolia
- HK\$960 for each Rotarian of the E-Club of D. 3450.

Such levy to be payable in equal half-yearly installments based on the number of members in the respective club in District 3450 as at 1<sup>st</sup> July for the first installment and as at 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 for the second installment.

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## Electronic Make-up Questions

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

1. How many participants we have today for the luncheon meeting?

Answer:

2. Who were our visiting guests?

Answer:

3. Who was our birthday boy today?

Answer:

4. How many members and spouses participated in our recent fellowship event in Sai Kung?

Answer:

5. How much we have collected for the Red Box today?

Answer:

6. Who was our speaker today?

Answer:

7. Who was asked to introduce the speaker?

Answer:

8. What was the subject of our speaker's speech?

Answer:

9. How many participants attended our 48th District Assembly on April 26th?

Answer:

10. How much was granted by the Rotary Foundation to our District under the 3-H Grant?

Answer:

Name:

Email:

## LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

**MAN - I'M TIRED!**

A man was sick and tired of going to work every day while his wife stayed home.

He wanted her to see what he went through so he prayed:

'Dear Lord: I go to work every day and put in 8 hours while my wife merely stays at home. I want her to know what I go through, so please allow her body to switch with mine for a day. Amen.'

God, in his infinite wisdom, granted the man's wish.

The next morning, sure enough, the man awoke as a woman.

He arose, cooked breakfast for his mate, awakened the kids, set out their school clothes, fed them breakfast, packed their lunches, drove them to school, came home and picked up the dry cleaning, took it to the cleaners and stopped at the bank to make a deposit, went grocery shopping, then drove home to put away the groceries, paid the bills and balanced the check book. He cleaned the cat's litter box and bathed the dog.

Then it was already 1P.M. and he hurried to make the beds, do the laundry, vacuum, dust, and sweep and Mop the kitchen floor. Ran to the school to pick up the kids and got into an argument with them on the way home. Set out milk and cookies and got the kids organized to do their homework, then set up the ironing board and watched TV while he did the ironing.

At 4:30 he began peeling potatoes and washing vegetables for salad, breaded the pork chops and snapped fresh beans for supper. After supper, he cleaned the kitchen, ran the dishwasher, folded laundry, bathed the kids, and put them to bed.

At 9 P.M. he was exhausted and, though his daily chores weren't finished, he went to bed where he was expected to make love, which he managed to get through without complaint.

The next morning, he awoke and immediately knelt by the bed and said: 'Lord, I don't know what I was thinking. I was so wrong to envy my wife's being able to stay home all day. Please, oh! oh! please, let us trade back.'

The Lord, in his infinite wisdom, replied:

'My son, I feel you have learned your lesson and I will be happy to change things back to the way they were. You'll just have to wait nine months though. You got pregnant last night.'

This has been voted "Women's Favorite E-mail" of the Year!

## Photographs of our meeting on

7<sup>th</sup> May, 2008



PDG Uncle Peter, Speaker Anthony Tong & Pres. Laurence Chan



Hon. Sec. Norman Lee, PE Andy & PP John Kwok



(L to R) PP Tim Liu, visiting guest, Ms Wu Wing -Yee & Rtn. Nancy Yee

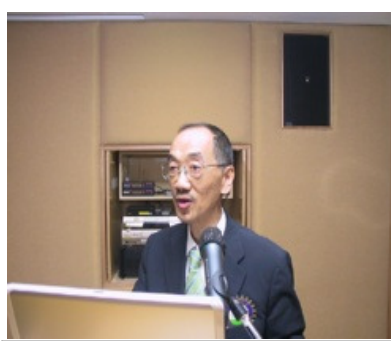


(L to R) PP Tim, visiting guest Ms Wu, Rtn Nancy, Rtn Kenny & PP George





(L to R)Dir Eric, Rtn Peter, Rtn Tony, Dir Jason, SAA Heman, Rotarianne Jennie & PP Henry



This week's guest speaker, Mr Anthony Tong



Birthday boy, Rtn John Yao received the gift from Pres. Laurence and PP John led the birthday song.



Group Photo with members, visiting guests & speaker



All Golfers at the new East course of Kau Sai Chau at Sai Kung's Public Golf Course



A group photo just before the tee-off time



Senior coach presented an award to Uncle Peter



Dir. Eric presented a souvenir to Pres. Laurence



A Happy Group Photo after a delicious dinner with members and visiting guests at the Tung Kee Sea Food Restaurant in Sai Kung

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