

# Last week's Proceedings -

# 5th May, 2010

Pres. Norman Lee had a welcome back to our Rtn Charles Bien; and our visiting Rotarian Benny Ratnani from RC of HK Northeast. Rtn Teresa introduced her guest Ms Fiona Wong; and Pres. Norman introduced his guest Mr Willie Wong. PP Andy Wong introduced our speakers of the day from Grace Charity Foundation; being Mr Kwok Fun Leung and Ms Brenda Wong.

PP Rudy was acting SAA and reported red box collection being HK\$1,000.

For next meeting on May 12 (Wednesday), Pres. Norman announced that the usual luncheon would be moved to May 12 evening in Happy Valley private box because of the racing night. So members beware, no luncheon but dinner for us next week.

Pres. Norman requested members and the guest to have one minute of silence for Rtn Bill Lamport who passed away peacefully on Sunday 2nd May 2010. Pres. Norman and PP George happened to have visited late Rtn Bill on last Thursday, who still kept many fond memories in the past.

PP Andy had a formal introduction of our two speakers Mr Kwok Fun Leung and Ms Brenda Wong, being full time volunteers to the Grace Charity Foundation; who contributed their time and efforts, with self finance on their own transport and accommodation in all field trips.

Ms Brenda Wong told us that Grace Charity Foundation was founded in Year 2000 by a few early retired gentlemen who first joined Hope school projects in Guizhou area (presence of many Miao ethnic minority people); their objective was to devote in education, with more direct involvement and low or no administration cost. Today they have 100 volunteers, and so far they had received donations of about HK\$110 millions and put in more than 1,000 schools in China as a result.

Mr Kwok Fun Leung told us that there are two types of schools being built by them:

- (1) Pre-school type (Primary 1-4, in hilly rural areas) that the children were too young to travel for far away school. They are of smaller size, just 2-4 classrooms and in the longer run being replaced by normal school.
- (2) Normal primary school (6-8 classroom size). Average 300 sq.m. size; based on a rule of thumb of RMB 1,000 per sq.m.; their construction cost is about RMB 300,000.

Regarding the project control, Mr Kwok told us that both their volunteers would check out safety precaution and the local education officials would monitor the construction standard (earthquake consideration is now included) and the project is financed by both Grace Charity Foundation & the local people (based on matching principle). Other than school construction, Mr Kwok was also involved in reading books donation, scholarship for university teacher training etc

Ms Brenda Wong was more for health and clinic project in the local villages, and to put up clean water cellars, nutrition supplement for children. They found many orphans in the rural areas (as the parents were in mining industry employment, high risk job).

Currently the Guizhou people are facing two major threats:

(1) 2009 winter was dry, the drought was affecting the spring/summer harvest for many plants such as oil producing incomes (youcaihua or rapeseed flower). (2) 7 out of 8 districts in Guizhou have drinking water shortage and it affects

the daily life and health situation of both their people and their cattle.

PP David Li asked a few follow up questions regarding their field works in China. Finally Rtn Tony Loy thanked the speakers for their hands-on approach and their low administration cost set-up of doing charitable projects in China. As Rtn Tony rightly pointed out that Guizhou was not a fertile ground for farming and people suffering from perennial poverty; therefore the good deeds from Grace Charity Foundation were much appreciated. Pres. Norman adjourned the meeting and made a toast to RI coupled with RC of HK Northeast.

## Rotary Potpourri

#### **Obituary**

In memoriam, Rtn. Bill Lamport, died on 2nd May, 2010 in hospital due to a long illness.

Vigil will be held at Hong Kong Funeral Home from 5pm -10pm on Wednesday May 12, 2010. Funeral Service will be held at the chapel of Hong Kong Funeral Home, 679 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong at 12:30pm on Thursday May 13, 2010.

Rtn. Bill Lamport, aged 75, joined the Rotary Club of HK Island East in November 1991. His son Jonathan has become a member of our Club too in July 2009.

Bill was a very good friend of many of our Rotarians who have thoroughly enjoyed his friendship for many years. He is always someone special not only to his family but also to his friends. He would be sorely missed by many of us.

We present our sincere condolence to his family at this very difficult time.

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#### **Council on Legislation approves Dues Increase**

The Council on Legislation meets every three years to consider changes to the RI Constitution, RI Bylaws, and the Standard Rotary Constitution.

This year's Council convenes 25-30 April 2010. Representatives from Rotary's 531 districts consider more than 200 pieces of legislation submitted by Rotary clubs, districts and the RI Board of Directors.

One of the subjects approved by the Council which affects every Rotarian is the increase of per capita dues.

The Council action means that Rotary clubs will pay per capita dues to Rotary International of

US\$51 per year in 2011-2012

US\$52 per year in 2012-2013

US\$53 per year in 2013-2014

Per capita dues are currently slated at US\$50 for 2010-2011

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# **Electronic Make-up Questions**

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

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1. Who has been welcomed back today ?
Ans)

2. Who and from which Club was our visiting Rotarian coming from ?
Ans)

3. Who have brought guests to the luncheon and what are the names of the guests ?
Ans)

4. Who reported the red box and what was the amount ?
Ans)

5. All attendants play a minute of silence today in memorial of whom ?
Ans)

6. Who were our speakers today and what was the topic about ?
Ans)

7. Who was asked to thank the speakers ?
Ans)

8. When did The Council on Legislation of Rotary International meet ?
Ans)

Submit
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### **Joke**

#### **Subject: Nine Simple Questions for Simple People**

There are only nine questions.

This is a quiz for people who know everything!

I found out in a hurry that I didn't.

These are not trick questions.

They are straight questions with straight answers.

- 1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.
- 2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?
- 3.. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons . All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?
- 4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
- 5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?
- 6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.
- 7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?
- 8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.
- 9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S.'

#### **Answers To Quiz:**

1... The one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends: Boxing.

- 2. North American landmark constantly moving backward: Niagara Falls . (The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute.)
- 3. Only two vegetables that can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons: Asparagus and rhubarb.
- 4. The fruit with its seeds on the outside: Strawberry.
- 5. How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.
- 6. Three English words beginning with dw: Dwarf, dwell and dwindle...
- 7. Fourteen punctuation marks in English grammar: Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.
- 8. The only vegetable or fruit never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form but fresh: Lettuce.
- 9. Six or more things you can wear on your feet beginning with 'S': Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts.

# **Photographs of our meeting**

#### on

#### 5th May, 2010

#### Luncheon Meeting Photos on 05 May, 2010



PDG Uncle Peter Hall, Guest speaker - Mr Kwok Fun Leung from Grace Charity Foundation & Pres. Norman Lee



Hon. Sec. Dr. Eric Chin, Guest Speaker - Ms Brenda Wong from Grace Charity Foundation & PE Heman Lam



IPP Andy Wong, Rtn. Peter Yeung, visiting guest Mr. Willie Wong & PP Paul Chan



Rtn. Charles Bien & PP David Li



PP Uncle John Kwok, visiting guest Fiona Wong & Rtn. Teresa Ho



Guest speaker - Mr Kwok Fun Leung, gave us an introduction of Grace Charity Foundation



Ms Brenda Wong, a full time volunteer for Grace Charity Foundation since 2003



Ms Brenda Wong & Mr Kwok Fun Leung presented some projects done by Grace Charity Foundation



Rtn. Dr. Tong Loy gave a vote of thanks to Ms Brenda Wong & Mr Kwok Fun Leung on behalf of the club



Pres. Norman Lee presented a club souvenir to Mr Kwok Fun Leung Ms Brenda Wong



Group photo with members, guest speaker, visiting Rotarian & guests

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