

Last week's Proceedings -

21st May, 2008

President Laurence kicked off the meeting at 1:20pm with 20 members and guests attending. Visiting Rotarians and guests included Rotarianne Jennie Ma, wife of our President Laurence; PP C.Y. Fu, past president of our Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East in 1998-1999; PP Patrick Connor of the Rotary Club of Westchester Pennsylvania, USA, also an ex-member of HKIE; Mr. Kevin Leung, friend of Dir. Heman, and Rotaractor Peter Clouting from Como Jannali Rotaract Club of Australia.

President Laurence led a 3 minute silence in memory of the quake victims in Sichuan, China. Peter Clouting then came to the podium to talk about a project called ShelterBox to provide temporary shelters for the victims and rescue teams in Sichuan.

ShelterBox is a program that delivers humanitarian aid and relief on a worldwide basis in an easily transportable green box... a ShelterBox which contains a tent (for up to 10 people), thermal blankets, multi-fuel cooker, cooking and eating equipment, water purification tablets, collapsible water containers, a children's pack, tools and other basic equipment. At a cost of AUD 1,200, each ShelterBox was designed to last for up to 8 months.

The Shelter Box program is administered in Australia as an International Service Project of the Rotary Club of Endeavour Hills. According to Peter, up to 400 of these Shelter Boxes would arrive in Sichuan on Saturday, May 24th, bringing relief to the quake victims in Sichuan. Peter, quitted his job immediately for the purpose of this trip, along with 4 other team members from UK and Australia, would be traveling to Sichuan to assist in the effort.

With handsome contributions from PP C.Y. FU, PP John Kwok and Rotorianne Mae Kwok, SAA Heman Lam reported that the RedBox collection today for the quake victims was HKD 30,400 and in May up to now was HKD 36,700 and growing fast.

Our guest speaker of the day was Mr. Mark Arrowsmith who was formally introduced by Dir. Jason Chiu. Mark had just returned from a trip to Bordeaux, France. Mark should be no stranger to our Club members as he has become a frequent guest speaker of our club. Each time Mark visited us, he would also bring along bottles of fine wine for members to taste.

Mark has been in the wines industry in Hong Kong for over 15 years. Mark is currently with Berry Bros. & Rudd, head of the broking department in Hong Kong. According to Mark, 2007 was not a good year for the red in Bordeaux. Sauterners (sweet white) on the other hand was a present surprise. Is it worth buying anything in this vintage? Only if the prices are on the floor and in no way do these wines are for the long term, bar the whites. Instead, Mark would recommend anyone to go back and buy 2003-2006.

At the conclusion of Mark's speech and the Q&A session, President Laurence presented a photo in action to him. PP George was invited to present a vote of thanks to our speaker.

President Laurence then closed the meeting at 2.10 pm and proposed a toast to RI coupled with the Rotary Club of Westchester Pennsylvania, USA and a special toast of respect to the rescue teams working for the relief of the quake victims in Sichuan.

Rotary Potpourri

Women in Rotary

Many of us have forgotten when Rotary International admitted women membership into a Rotary Club. The following is a good piece of history released by the Rotarian magazine for general information.

On 4 th May 1987 in a case between RI and the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, USA, the Supreme Court ruled that Rotary International could not exclude women from membership based on their gender. Sylvia Whitlock who was the club—s president-elect when the Supreme Court issued its decision, was sworn in as the first female Rotary club president two months later.

Ten years earlier, the club had admitted Donna Bogart, Mary Lou Elliot and Rosemary Freitag to active membership and was subsequently terminated by the RI Board in March 1978. The club was reinstated following a ruling by a California appeals court in March 1986. In May 1986, the RI Board directed clubs to adhere to RI s constitutional prohibition against female membership while it appealed the decision to the California Supreme Court. In September, following the courts decision not to hear RI s case, the Board directed clubs in California to comply with the judgment that RI could not limit its membership to men only.

The US Supreme Court subsequent decision in 1987 opened membership in Rotary to women in the United States and in 1989, the Council on Legislation voted to eliminate the requirement that Rotary club membership be limited to men, permitting clubs worldwide to admit women. To-day, women make up of 15 percent of Rotary summer membership."

For example, the Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East admitted the first female member into the club in 2007 since it was chartered in 1954. The world is changing, and we are looking forward to induct more potential female members in the future.

Additional Donation to China Earthquake Relief Fund

Acknowledgment is hereby made to PP John Kwok and his Rotarianne Mae Kwok for their donations of HK\$10,000.00 each respectively, thus making a total of HK\$20,000.00 which will be channeled to the proper destination for the earthquake relief works in China. With heartfelt thanks to the donors for their generosity.

Electronic Make-up Questions

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

1. How many members and guests we have today for the luncheon meeting?
Answer:
2. Who were our guests from Hong Kong?
Answer:
3. Who were our guests from overse as?
Answer:
4. How much we have collected for the Red Box today and up to this week of May?
Answer:
5. Who was our spe aker today?
Answer:
6. Who was asked to introduce the speaker?
Answer:
7. What was the subject of our speaker's speech?
Answer:
8. Who was asked to thank our speaker?
Answer:
9. Who was as the first female Rotary club president in the Rotary history?
Answer:
10. To-day, women make up of how many percent of Rotary's membership?
Answer:
Name: Email:

LAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Instead of a laugh we present to you this week a quote from IPP Paul Chan:

HOW TO STAY YOUNG

- 1. Throw out nonessential numbers. This includes age, weight, and height. Let the doctors worry about them. That is why you pay them.
- 2. Keep only cheerful friends. The grouches pull you down.

(Keep this in mind if you are one of those grouches!)

3. Keep learning:

Learn more about the computer, crafts, gardening, whatever.

Ne ver let the brain get idle.

"An idle mind is the devil's workshop."

And the devil's name is Alzheimer's!

- 4. Enjoy the simple things.
- 5. Laugh often, long and loud. Laugh until you gasp for breath. And if you have friend who make you laugh, spend lots and lots of time with them (especially within the Rotary family)!
- 6. Tears happen:

Endure, grieve, and move on.

The only person who is with us our entire life, is oneself.

LIVE your life to the fullest while you are alive.

7. Surround yourself with what you love:

Whether it's family, pets, keepsakes, music, plants, hobbies, whatever. Your home

is your refuge (EXCEPT perhaps during and/or after an Earthquake).

8. Cherish your health:

If it is good, preserve it.

If it is unstable, improve it.

If it is beyond what you can improve, get help.

9. Don't take guilt trips.

Take a trip to the shopping mall, even to a foreign country, but NEVER to where guilt resides, but of course always stay on the good side of the law.

10. At every opportunity, tell the persons you love that you love them. "ILOVE YOU ALL".

Photographs of our meeting on

21st May, 2008



AG Eddy Wong, former Rotarian Patrick Connor & former PP CY Fu of RC of HKIE



PDG. Uncle Peter, speaker Mark Arrowsmith & President Laurence



(L to R) Rotarian Patrick Connor, PP George, Rtn Tony, Dir Jason, Dir Eric, PP Hubert & PP Stephen



(L to R) SAA Heman Lam, Rotaractor Peter Clouting from Como Jannali Rotaract Club of Australia & PE Andy Wong



(L to R)SAA Heman, Peter, PE Andy, PP Rudy, Rotarianne Jenny & visiting guest Kevin Leung



Peter Clouting sharing with us of his volunteer work for Shelterbox setup for Sichuan Calamity



Wine tasting expert, Mark, talk to us about the wine investment in this year



Former PP CY Fu presented President Laurence a check to our Red Box in response to our request of donation for the Sichuan Calamity



pre vious home