





Vol. 60 No. 39 17<sup>th</sup> April 2013

## Last Week's Proceedings – 10th April, 2013

The 40<sup>th</sup> Rotary Club meeting started with the bell rang and President Nancy extended the welcome to all members and guests. There were 14 members and 5 visitors present. The visitors were Mrs. Elana Ho, founder of Starfish Charitable Foundation Ltd., Ms. Ruth Kan, Treasurer of Starfish, Ms. Avis Kong, guest of PE Jonathan, Angela, the better half of PP Andy, Mr. Alex Fung, guest of Rtn. Carl Yau. There is no birthday member present.

Pres. Nancy opened the meeting by the following greeting message to everyone:

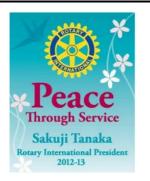
"Welcome you all to our 40th luncheon meeting & I am glad to remind you all that last Sat; that's April 6, was our 59 anniversary and we are approaching to 60. Happy birthday & Congratulation to HKIE, it is not easy to sustain a club that could last for 59 years and is still good. Let's keep this good momentum of HKIE rolling."

Announcements made by President Nancy were as follows:

### **Announcements:**

April is the Magazine Month. RI HAD PUBLISHED PAUL HARRIS' LAST ARTICLE FOR THE ROTARIAN ON HIS RECOLLECTIONS FOR ROTARY'S  $45^{TH}$  ANNIVERSARY (FEBRUARY 1947)

And also we have RI President Sakuji Tanaka and Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair Wilfrid J. Wilkinson inspiring articles. I believed our HS Stacy has sent out to all members.



THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONG KONG ISLAND EAST LTD.

香港東區扶輪社週 Club 16340 District 3450 Chartered on 06 April, 1954 by Charter President PDG (Uncle) John Yuen Last Friday, I have lined up an interview with Uncle Peter. PP Amy from Admiralty was the reporter. Besides, I have hired a video shooting man to record the whole interview in which a video clipping after editing will be hosted in District Website, HKIE website and Facebook. PP Amy will do the write up and will publish in our upcoming District Newsletter. Uncle John was also there to assist in picture & video shooting; to make sure his best buddy interview's and everything was in good order.

Last Saturday, is our 4th son - HK Harbour's 26th anniversary. IPP Eric & Uncle John also attended. Uncle John left early and forgot to put down his raffle ticket or else he should get the 4<sup>th</sup> prize. But luckily, I won the 6th prize which is a Shanghai Tang handbag. Happy to meet our ex-member Patrick Poon; who is their CP re-joined HK Harbour again. Not only that, his son Samuel also joined HK Harbour as well.

By far, we are doing quite well in having Jonathan, Sharon & Stacy as the 2nd generation joined us.

Nevertheless, they joined after their passed away of their fathers. The good of HKIE should be shared by both generations at the same time. I would love to see more 2nd generation could share their joy and happiness with their father our grandfather.

This Monday, we have a vocational talk in Holland Hostel, one of our Poverty Alleviation Project. PP Laurence & PP Heman were the speakers in sharing their life experience. PP Laurence in sharing his golden rule of 9A & 3C as the life guideline whereas PP Heman was brave enough to share his bad experience in front of 30 students. Both speeches were so inspiring and touching that the students stayed till 10pm without any complaints.

#### A. District Announcements

- 1. April 12 Last reminder on our 5th Rotary Happy Hour, that's this coming Fri -which will be held in Zeffirino Ristorante, Top Floor, Regal Hong Kong Hotel, 6- 9 pm, Two Standard drinks in red and white wine, soft drink and menu of canape will be served at a cost of just HK\$ 200 per one.
  - PDG Ada will share her latest update in our membership development and retention in our District. You will be excited to know the amazing growth of our new members for the last nine months.
- 2. April 20- 21 53rd District Conference Last call again. Please contact our PE for those who still want to enroll.

### **B.** Club Announcements:

- 1. April 12 Joint Area 3 Poverty Alleviation Project of M.O.R.E.法力量 —青少年發展計 is going to start a serious of vocation talks.
- 2. April 27 Careers Expo 2013 Co-organized by Education Bureau and Rotary Club in Area 6 at 9:30 a.m. at Tsuen Wan Government Secondary School, 70 Hoi Pa Street, Tsuen Wan, N.T. I am one of the speakers in sharing about Media & Marketing and the latest Trend of advertising.

3. May 9 (Thur) - Last Vocational Talk on Poverty Alleviation Project of Holland Hostel Rtn Jonah & I will be the speaker.

After the announcements, Acting SAA PP Rudy reported the Red box collection at HK\$800.

PP Andy was asked to give the introduction for the speaker. PP Andy Introduced Mrs. Elana Ho, founder of Starfish by playing a video. The video is about the Starfish Charitable Foundation. The following is the story about Starfish which is posted on their website:

There was a young man walking down a deserted beach just before dawn. In the distance he saw a frail old man. As he approached the old man, he saw him picking up stranded starfish and throwing them back into the sea.

The young man gazed in wonder as the old man again and again threw the small starfish from the sand to the water. He asked, "Old man, why do you spend so much energy doing what seems to be a waste of time?"

The old man explained that the stranded starfish would die if left in the morning sun.

"But there must be thousands of beaches and millions of starfish!", exclaimed the young man and "How can you make any difference?"

The old man looked down at the small starfish in his hands and as he threw it to the safety of the sea, he said, "I made a difference to this one".

That's the same principle Starfish Charitable Trust embraced i.e. The Principle of One. No matter who you are, you can make a difference as long as you are willing.

Mrs. Ho started the speech by sharing with us many touching photos of their cases. The organization was founded in 2006. In 2012, Starfish has helped 80 cases. Up to the presentation time, the organization has helped a total of 208 cases. Many of the cases are cleft lips & palate. There are other cases relating to cerebral palsy, congenital heart disease, spina bifida, prosthesis & deformity, clubfoot, burn injury, brain tumor & hydrocephalus, septicaemia etc.

Most of the cases are abandoned orphans because of their born sickness. In most cases, after the surgery, the orphans can live like a normal person, their lives have totally changed. Many of the orphans they received did not cry or smile, they are reluctant to react to other people because of their past experience with people.

After receiving the caring love by the volunteers of Starfish and getting the surgery done, they regained their trust with people, their smiles returned. Many of the orphans were adopted by overseas families. Mrs. Ho showed us some of the happy photos of those adopted orphans with the new family.

The organization is run by all volunteers. The administrative cost is close to zero. All the donations collected are used on the cases in their surgery cost and medical expenses. In 2012, the organization has first established a feeding home in Shanghai to extend the service for some needed orphans with continuous monitoring. Their annual expense in 2012 was HK\$2,578,000. They are expecting a sharp increase in expense in 2013 to 3.5 million with the new feeding home in service.

During the Q&A time, members have actively asked questions to show our concern. Here below is a summary of the answers by Mrs. Ho.

- 1. Starfish often give talks in churches and schools. Their objective is to promote this service to the second generation and hope that they can become part of this loving family to offer our care and love to those in need. They work with many orphanages and hospitals in China to identify the needed cases.
- 2. Most of the adoptions are by overseas families. There are only a few cases by local families within China. There are some cases in China which the family returned the orphan for various reasons. There are 3 successful cases of adoption by Hong Kong families.
- 3. Starfish is a purely self-funded organization and they do not receive any support from the Government.
- 4. Starfish also aims to spread the Gospel through services. Although they are not allowed to speak Gospel in public, the volunteers would share the Gospels in small gatherings.
- 5. Many of their volunteers are medical doctors or professionals in medical field. They have a committee to identify the qualified volunteers and put them into different aspects of services.

PP Eddy Wong was asked to thank the speaker. PP Eddy requested the permission to speak in Chinese for the vote of thanks. The Starfish story is very touching. Children are our hope. Although China often claims to be a strong country, there are still many social problems. PP Eddy asked the floor to thank the speaker in our usual Rotary manner.

Pres. Nancy then showed a short video of Uncle Peter during the interview last week. We are all happy to see that Uncle Peter is recovering well.

Next meeting: Rotarian Tony Loy will speak on the topic "Sports & Race".

The meeting ended in time after a toast to Rotary International coupled with Rotary Club of HK Island East.

## *CANCANCANCA*

## Rotary Potpourri

We have reached our targets for the contributions to the Rotary Foundation this year

Thanks to the generous contributions of our members we have already met in early April all our targets of this Rotary Year for the contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Our contributions this year came from each member contributed 10 USD from the Red Box fund for the Rotary Foundation plus five of our members who have made specific contributions to become a Major Donor or a Paul Harris Fellow; they are:

PP Uncle John Kwok being a Major Donor
PP Hubert Chan being a Major Donor
Rotarian Jonah Cheung being Paul Harris Fellow the first time
Director William Wong being Paul Harris Fellow the second time
PP Norman contributed a Paul Harris Fellow award to Rotarian Ng Fook Hong.

The Rotary Foundation has sent the following message to all contributors:

On behalf of the mother who will receive prenatal care, the father who will have access to fresh water for his family, and the children who will learn to read and write in their newly furnished school, thank you for your gift to The Rotary Foundation's Annual Fund. Your contributions fund projects that assist these individuals, these families, these communities.

The Annual Fund is the primary source of revenue for the Foundation's programs and is replenished every year by Rotarians and other supporters. Thank you for being part of this group, adding your voice to theirs.

RI President Sakuji Tanaka challenges us to work towards Peace through Service. He reminds us that every act of goodness contributes to global harmony. Thank you for taking this step toward a better world.

Thank you, Eric Schmelling Fund Development Division Manager.

# EAUGH FOR THE WEEK

Subject: The Hypnotist

It was entertainment night at the Senior Citizens Center, Claude, the hypnotist, explained: "I'm here to put you into a trance; I intend to hypnotize each and every member of the audience."

The excitement was almost electric as Claude withdrew a beautiful antique pocket watch from his coat.

"I want each of you to keep your eyes on this antique watch.

It's a very special watch. It's been in my family for six generations."

He began to swing the watch gently back and forth while quietly chanting,

"Watch the watch, watch the watch, watch the watch..."

The large crowd became mesmerized as the watch swayed back and forth, light gleaming off its polished surface. A hundred pairs of eyes followed the swaying watch until, suddenly, the chain broke; it slipped from the hypnotist's fingers and fell to the floor, breaking into a hundred pieces.

"SHIT!" said the hypnotist.

It took three days to clean up the Senior Citizens Center.

Claude was never invited back.

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| Year 2012 -2013        |  |  |  |   |
|------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| <b>President Elect</b> | Secretary  | Treasurer  |  | Ex-Officio  |
| Jonathan Lamport       | Stacy Ho   | Dr. Denr   | nis Wat  | Dr. Eric Chin   |
|                        |  |  |  |   |
| Dr. Rudy Law           | Andy Wong  | Heman Lam  | Norman Lee   | William Wong  |
| g•                     |  |  |  |   |
|                        | Laurence Chan  | Anthony Kwong  | Colin Chau   | Kevin Leung   |
| •                      | Terry Tsang  | Jonah Cheung   | Teresa Ho  | William Wong  |
|                        |  |  |  |   |
| Y.K. Cheng Dr.         | Hubert Chan  | PP Council   | Rep. Andrew  | Chen  |
|                        | Jonathan Lamport  Dr. Rudy Law  s: ung Eddy Wong rt Nelson Tse | President Elect Jonathan Lamport  Dr. Rudy Law Andy Wong  s: ung Eddy Wong Laurence Chan rt Nelson Tse Terry Tsang | President Elect Secretary Treasure Jonathan Lamport Stacy Ho Dr. Deni  Dr. Rudy Law Andy Wong Heman Lam  s: ung Eddy Wong Laurence Chan Anthony Kwong rt Nelson Tse Terry Tsang Jonah Cheung | President Elect Jonathan Lamport  Stacy Ho  Dr. Dennis Wat  Dr. Rudy Law  Andy Wong  Heman Lam  Norman Lee  s: ung  Eddy Wong  Laurence Chan  Anthony Kwong  Colin Chau  rt  Nelson Tse  Terry Tsang  Jonah Cheung  Teresa Ho |

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

### 10 April 2013 - Luncheon Meeting Rotary Club of Hong Kong Island East



PE Jonathan Lamport, Guest Speaker - Mrs Elana Ho, founder of Starfish & Pres. Nancy Yee



PP Andy Wong, PP Eddy Wong & PP Uncle John Kwok



PP Rudy Law, visiting guest - Alex Fung & PP Norman Lee



Visiting guests - (Ms Ruth Kan from Starfish, Ms Angela Wu & Ms Avis Kong)



PP David Lee & Rtn. Carl Yau



Dir. Teresa Ho & Rtn. Peter Yeung





Rtn. Tony Loy & PP Heman Lam

Guest Speaker - Mrs. Elana Ho shared the works of Starfish



Pres. Nancy Yee presented a Club Banner & polo shirt to thank Mrs. Elana Ho's sharing



PP Eddy Wong gave a vote of thank to Mrs. Elana Ho on behalf of the club



Group photo with members, guest speaker & visiting guests