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CLUB ADVISORS

PDG YK Cheng DGE Norman Lee PP Andrew Chen PP Tim Lui PP Henry Chan PP Hubert Chan PP George Leung PP David Li PP Rudy Law PP Leo Yu Rtn Freddy Wu

Speaker for today:

Natalie Chan Wo Mi, Partner, Audit & Assurance, Deloitte

Last Meeting - Wednesday 5 October 2022: The Hon Kwok Wai-keung, Aron, JP



Members attending were:

President Rico Fung DG Norman Lee PP Gilbert Fung PP Stacy Ho PP Rudy Law PP William Wong IPP Bernard Lee Rtn Christopher Wong Rtn Andrew Lai Rtn Kevin Leung Rtn Bonnie Yeung Rtn Peter Yeung

Guest of PP Gilbert Fung: Alice Yim

President Rico welcomed DG Norman returning from the U.S., and Rtn Andrew Lai returning from the U.K.

DG Norman attended his mother's funeral. He was in Boston for 2 weeks, then visited his daughter in Arizona and his son in Los Angeles. He was happy to be among the first batch to be exempt from hotel quarantine when he came back to Hong Kong.

DG Norman encouraged us to visit Rotary clubs when abroad. This time he visited two Rotary clubs. The first one is a 100-year old club in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The current president

OTARY CLUE

was from Hong Kong. The second Rotary club was at Catalina, Arizona, where he also attended their District Conference. He was able to meet many Rotaractors and Rotarians at the event. DG Norman brought back two flags, which as a tradition, will be hung on the wall with the others we have collected.

Rtn Andrew was working in London the last few months. He also visited the U.S., Mexico, and Canada, as there were no travel restrictions in these areas. He was happy to have participated in our Virtual Rotary Exchange program while he was in the U.K. He was amazed to bond virtually with new friends in Hong Kong and Penang under the program.



President Rico made RI, District and club announcements.

- RI President Jennifer Jones had sent an email with a unique link for each one of us to participate the 2022 Rotary All-Member Survey, as part of Rotary's commitment to provide us with the best membership experience possible.
- RI also suggested membership director / chair of each club to do an online membership satisfaction survey. Our board will do the necessary preparation and distribute the survey to members as soon as possible.
- District New Members Orientation will be held on Saturday, 8 October, 2022, from 9:30am to 1:15pm, in Alexandra Hotel, Fortress Hill, Hong Kong.
- Our club had signed up for the End Polio Walk, to be held on Saturday, 22 October 2022, at The Podium, Cyberport.
- Rotary Carbon Reduction and Ecology Day will be held on Sunday, 30 October, 2022, from 9:30am to 1:30pm, followed by vegetarian lunch. Club or district PPE Director or representative will join the event.
- Youth Director Benson Ng contacted our Interact Club to participate in the Outstanding Student Service Ambassadors Award Program. It is a Hong Kong wide event organised by the District. DG Norman hopes that this will become a signature project in the future.
- First round of the People of Action photo and video competition will start on 10 September, 2022. The second and third rounds will start on 28 November, 2022 and 13 February 2023 to 20 April, 2023, respectively.
- Photo Competition from our club will commence on 15 November, 2022. Deadline will be Mid-December 2022.

President Rico introduced our speaker, the Hon Kwok Wai-keung, Aron, JP, of the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions.



Mr. Kwok shared with us his life history, as a Eastern District Board member, as a LegCo member, as well as a brief history of the Union. The Union was established in 1948, and has 400,000 members. Traditionally, the Union was to help ensure the rights of blue collar workers. With factories moving out of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Clerical and Professional Employees General Union (CPEGU) became more important. Currently it has close to 60,000 members. While the Union is now more focused on health, women and elderly care and training, CPEGU is more concerned about the quality of life of white collar workers. The food and beverage industry during the COVID-19 days had called for the Union's participation when workers lost their jobs. The Union assists in the fair arrangement and transition during the impact and recovery of the pandemic.

The Union also helps keep the balance, liaising with the Government on policy and legislation making and implementation in the Greater Bay Area.

Occupational safety is also a Union's focus. For example, Internet platform workers are often not protected, as they are not considered as employees, and therefore not insured should an accident occur.

The Eastern District of Hong Kong is an ageing district, where one out of four residents are elderly. The area is also far away from the developing areas, such as Tung Chung and West Kowloon. As a result, commuting to work and parking becomes an issue.

In the past, real estate development had occupied most of the coastline, leaving less room for pedestrians. The Government is planning to reduce the disconnected areas to make room for a pedestrian corridor.

Mr. Kwok is also collecting and reflecting opinion on the cross harbour tunnels, with the hope that the upcoming toll review will be fair and acceptable.

Rtn Bonnie gave vote of thanks to Mr. Kwok in the usual Rotarian manner.

Red box for the day was HK\$1,050 Meeting adjourned at 2:00pm.



Breaking news on Virtual Rotary Exchange (VRE) - DG Norman Lee

VRE was created by D3450 as a new form of exchange in our Rotary network. Our objective is to help our youths to gain more international exposure and promote international understanding. It is a good vehicle for clubs to search for quality successors. After the successful pilot run by RC of Hong Kong Island East and RC of Penang, we have built a solid foundation for this new program. VRE all started with the Virtual Vocational Exchange we have planned with RIPE Gordon McInally 2 years ago. Now we are making good progress. RI is talking to us to understand more about this program.



- 1. D3450 has been invited by RIPE Gordon to present VRE at the 2023 International Assembly panel discussion.
- 2. D3450 is likely to be given a break out session at the 2023 Melbourne Convention for the purpose of promoting VRE to Rotarians from around the world.

Now we need to put more effort in this new program to push it to the international level in the hope that VRE will become a regular program for all Districts. We have many clubs already planned to engage their sister clubs to run VRE. Hopefully we can build more strong cases before Melbourne Convention. Your understanding and support are important to the success of VRE. — DG Norman Lee

DG Norman, thank you for this very encouraging update. That the VRE will be introduced in the International Assembly (IA) reflects the importance RI has attached to this program. Inserting a new agenda item in the IA is never easy, considering that the IA's duration has since been trimmed from 14 days 25 years ago to only 5 days in 2023. It is a signal honor for our District. Let me take this opportunity to thank those who inspired the development of this program and those who made the pilot VRE a success. With your continued support, the world we live in will be a better place. — PDG Y. K. Cheng

Happy Birthday to our Splendid October Birthday Members

2nd - PP Jonathan Lamport, 7th - Rtn Charles Bien, 13th - Rtn Francis Li,15th - PP William Wong, 30th - Rtn John Poon



Dear PDG Kenneth, Congratulations and it would be a great opportunity to promote VRE to all Incoming District Leaders around the world in Jan, 2023. I am sure my classmates will ask me for more details about this program during my IA training in US. Looking forward to your wonderful presentation on 9th Jan. Cheers. — DGE Andy Lee

DG Norman deserves all the credit, he led and successfully completed a pilot VRE program between HKIE and Penang. The subsequent VRE report demonstrated the richness of the program content which attracted the participation of many young individuals of high caliber. RIPE Gordon was most impressed and of the opinion that VRE is in line with his vision to reconnecting Rotarians across the globe to make lasting impacts. VRE could not have gained attention of RI without the staunch support and encouragement of DG Norman. For now, we must redouble our efforts to advance this exchange program and make it worthy of the accorded recognition. — PDG Kenneth Wong

We have applied for a break out session to promote VRE in the Melbourne Convention. There are good indications that our application would be met with favourable consideration. Members of the District VRE team is hard at work to assist our Rotary clubs to seek VRE partners and build good program content which includes telling good Hong Kong & Macau stories. Thank you for your encouragement and support — PDG Kenneth Wong

Great work, DG Norman and PDG Kenneth! It brings D3450 into the limelight and shapes the future development of Rotary exchange! — PDG H.W. Fung





Congratulations to President Rico for tying the knot with Serena. It was a proud and joyful moment for all of us.

President Rico, we can see that Rotary is an important part of you as you are to

us. As you continue to lead us in our 69th year, we wish you and your better half the best

to come. May your marriage be filled with all the right ingredients: a heap of love, a dash of humour, a touch of romance, and a spoonful of understanding. May your joy last forever.



Club postal address
Meeting Venue
Meeting Schedules
Website

: P.O.Box 47064, Morrison Hill Post Office, Hong Kong

: Regal HK Hotel, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong : Every 1st and 3rd Wednesday at 12:30 pm

: http://hkie.rotary3450.org/