

The Weekly Bulletin Of The Rotary Club Of Pudu, R.I. District 1300, K.L. Malaysia



BERITA pudu



"THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS"

R.I. Theme for Rotary Year 2009/2010

<http://www.rotarypudu.org.my>

Involved We Are, Committed We Must Be.



R.I. President John Kenny
& R.I. First Lady June Kenny

With Compliments

from



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B e r i t a P U D U

8th February 2010

For Members Only

ISSUE NO : 29/2009-10

website:- <http://www.rotarypudu.org.my>

Programme for Today

Speaker : DGE Lim Kok Beng
Subject : Leadership

ON DUTY

Duty Table : Rtn Arwin Kumar
Fellowship : Rtn Kertz Lau
Finemaster : Rtn Patrick Lee
Introduce : Rtn Edward Lee
Thanking : Rtn Sharon Lim

Programme for 22nd February 2010

Speaker : HE Alejandro A Gordillo
Subject : As The Peruvian Ambassador
In Malaysia

ON DUTY

Duty Table : Rtn Suresh Gregory
Fellowship : Rtn Lawrence Annies
Finemaster : PP Michael Tung
Introduce : Rtn Jeffrey Yap
Thanking : Rtn Sharon Lim

**THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE PUDU ROTARY CLUB WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL
CHINESE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A VERY HAPPY AND A PROSPEROUS CHINESE NEW YEAR.
GONG XI FA CHAI.**

Birthdays & Wedding Anniversaries

Birthdays : Rtn Arwin kumar (19th Feb)
Spouse's Birthday : Ann Sandra (11th Feb) Ann Prema (17th Feb)
Anniversaries : Nil

Your 8th – 28th February 2010 Diary Month of February is Dedicated to World Understanding Month

Date	Day	Time	Meeting	Venue
08-02-10	Mon	12.45 pm	Weekly Meeting	Shangri-la Hotel, KL
09-02-10	Tues	7.00 pm	Incoming Vocational/Community Service Com. Mtg.	RSGC, KL
10-02-10	Wed	6.30 pm	New Gen. Com. Mtg.	Rtn Arwin Kumar's Office
11-02-10	Thurs	6.30 pm	Community Service Com. Mtg.	Rtn Mok Sin Office
13-02-10	Sat	3.00 pm	Pudu Rotaract Club Meeting	Eurasian Club, Jalan Pudu, KL
14-15-02-10			GONG XI FA CAI HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR	
15-02-10			PUBLIC HOLIDAY NO WEEKLY MEETING	
22-02-10	Mon	12.45 pm	Weekly Meeting	Shangri-la Hotel, KL
25-02-10	Thurs	6.30 pm	BOD Meeting	President Robin Tay's Office
27-02-10	Sat	3.00 pm	Pudu Rotaract Club Meeting	Eurasian Club, Jalan Pudu, KL

THE JENJAROM OLD FOLKS HOME

The Jenjarom Old Folks Home holds a special place in the heart of the Pudu Rotary Club. That's because we have been associated with the Home for about 20 years. Back in the early 1990s the Club was looking for a community service project and it was suggested that we adopt an old folks home. Under the then Community Service Director Dato PY Choong, the Jenjarom Old Folks Home was introduced to us.

The Home then was in another location, opposite the current one at the place where the day care centre is. It was in a dilapidated status and much had to be done to make it more liveable. Thus the Club had a fund raising campaign and managed to raise about RM25,000 to renovate it. A new kitchen, bathrooms and dining area were added. In addition a cook and a cleaning lady were employed with their wages subsidized by the Club. The Club then had a roaster system whereby every fortnight a couple of Pudu Rotarians would visit the Home to monitor the upkeep. The condition to Central Welfare Council (CWC) the semi - Government body that looked after it, was that the involvement of the Club would be for five years only.

With the blink of an eye, five years passed so quickly and now it is close to 20 years and the Club still is involved although on a much smaller scale.

After the initial renovation the Club carried out a couple more improve the flooring with donated tiles and new bathrooms installed. We even got other corporations to adopt it for other years eg the RC Schediem, Holland, SKF, Bina Works.

We carried out a fund raising project and capitalised the money raised. At the present moment only money earned from the interest is used to help subsidize the cook and the cleaning maid. Any short fall, with the current low interest rate, is top up by the club's other funds. To present the cheque, we visit the Home twice a year. We had carried out many projects too with the Home. We had taken the inmates, about 20 of them mostly, for outings, for lunches, karaoke sessions and medical examinations. We even installed hot and cold water system for them under the RI's Matching Grant. Of course every now and then, we changed the bed sheets as well as beds and side cupboards. And for all these we have many willing donors who during the visits also give angpows, gifts and toiletries.

If you have not been to the Home, it is a worthwhile trip to see for yourself what Rotary can do to help the underprivileged and maybe one day you might want to donate something too.

Dear Fellow Pudu Rotarians,

Firstly, on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to wish all fellow Pudu Rotarians and those who are celebrating this auspicious festive season a **"GONG XI FATT CHAI"**. May this Golden Tiger brings you continuous everlasting prosperity and uncountable windfalls? May your health and wealth be strong and cherishing as always? May all your indescribable wishes and dreams you wish for will always bestow upon you?

Today, the 8th February 2010, precisely six days before we celebrate this auspicious Chinese New Year with our loved ones and family, traditionally, almost all young children are anxious to have their 'Wish List' answered. Although traditionally all their itineraries listed have to be new, this particular tradition is said to be the most important aspect of the whole Chinese New Year celebration - the receiving of "Ang Pow". This symbolic symbol marks the beginning of the Chinese New Year celebration on the eve at their reunion dinners.

For Pudu, we too have a tradition to follow. For more than two consecutive years, Rtn Mok Sin has been leading a team of dedicated and caring Rotarians, Rotary Anns, Rotaractors, and Friends of Rotary to visit these senior citizens at Jenjarom Old Folks Home in Kuala Selangor. This year, on the 24th January 2010, the visitation was not about giving new clothing, give away goody bags, and most importantly giving "Ang Pow", the visit was a 'mini' Medic Screening for the senior citizens.

This screening was started by PP Dato' Dr. Lee Hoo Teong on our last visit in June 09. A good thorough medic screening was done and medication including vitamins were given. At the recent visit, Dr. Chew Hon Nam did skin screening and an Optician who is a friend of PP KU Rajah did eye-check. Thank you all for this well carried out humanitarian work although it was a small scale work, but I am sure, this humanitarian work will be gracefully pass on as a mission for years to come.

On 23 February, Rotary will celebrate its 105th anniversary. On that day, we also mark World Understanding and Peace Day, for in Rotary, part of our mission is working for peace - not through military might, but through our humanitarian work. Rotary works to restore that hope by bringing health, education, and the promise of a better future.

During this coming festive season been celebrated by many, let us not be forgotten about those underprivileged people in this fragile blue marble. Especially those people who are now suffering traumatically in Haiti, in the Mid-East - the war zone areas and many other countries who have endless series of civil conflicts, in the Philippines - never ending typhoon infested country, and many other natural disasters inflated by the global warming.

Lets pray and hope that through our work, we will helped build bridges to peace and harmony. The future of this blue marble lies in our hands.

"Gong Xi Fatt Chai" and the Future of Rotary is in Your Hands.

Robin Tay Lian Kiat
President of Pudu Rotary Club RY 2009/2010

"INVOLVED WE ARE, COMMITTED WE MUST BE"

PROCEEDINGS ON MONDAY, 25th January 2010

Guest Speaker : AG PP Surina Suhaimi
Subject : Group Study Exchange

VISITING ROTARIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
AG PP Surina Suhaimi	RC Temerloh

GUESTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Host</u>
Praeprapa Engchun	Rtn. Alex Chang
Rtyn. Elaine Chang	Rtn. Alex Chang
Angela Khoo	Pp Mike Tung
Jeslyn	Pp Mike Tung
Tenny	Rtn. Leong Choy Ying
Henry Chan	President Robin Tay
Mark Hazelwood	Rtn. James Prohett
Param	Rtn. Steven Oon

STATISTICS

Visiting Rotarians	:	1
Guests	:	8
Club Members	:	36
Total Present	:	45

COLLECTIONS

Birthdays / Anniversaries / Fines	:	RM 32.00
Paying Diners	:	RM 270.00
Raffles & Others	:	RM 91.00
Total	:	RM 393.00

CLUB PROCEEDINGS

SAA Rtn Stanley Pereira called the meeting to order at 1.05 pm on behalf of President Robin Tay. He introduced all the visiting Rotarians and guests. He later led in the singing of the National Anthem and proposed the loyal toast.

The finemaster for the day was PDG K B Lee. He started his fine session by asking everyone to contribute RM1 being declared a birthday for all. President Robin was fined RM1 for not being properly dressed.

All the members who did not wear the following ie. no name tags, ties or jackets were each fined RM1.

PP Sam paid RM5 for his wedding anniversary and Rtn Asok Kumar were each fined RM1 for not finding a fellowship chairman for the day.

PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Last Saturday, on the 23rd January 2010, at SMK Pudu Secondary School, we launched the Secondary Scholarship and Undergraduate Grants to 275 students and 3 Undergraduates amounting to RM 65,500. This event was well attended by our generous donors, contributors, well wishers and Rotarians. The GOH for this event was none other than our District Governor, Leslie Salehuddin. Thank you, OC, IPP Michael Yeow and your committee for organizing this noble event.

On the same evening at 7.00 pm, the District 3300 Karaoke Fellowship took place at Holiday Villa, Ampang. Our Group 9 was represented by IPP Sunny Low from RC Ampang who sung "My Way". That evening, the event started off with lots of enthusiastic singers waiting impatiently to sing. The respond from all the groups were overwhelming and there were fun and laughter throughout the entire evening.

On that evening, we also celebrated Dato' Jimmy Lim mother's 80th Birthday and the fellowship ended at about 3.00 am in the morning. The winner for the District Karaoke Fellowship was

from Group 10, Group 11 won the First-Runner Up and the Second Runner-Up went to Group 1 respectively.

Yesterday on the 24th there were two important events took place. One was our annual visit to Jenjarom Old Folks Home and the other was the District 3300 Mid-Term Review. For the visit to the Jenjarom Old Folks Home, I have the pleasure to call upon Rtn Mok Sin the OC for the visit to briefly report to us. (Refer to his report.)

Thank You Rtn Mok Sin and PE Leong Choy Ying for sitting in for me while I was having my Mid-Term Review.

Yesterday morning at 10.00 am at Holiday Villa, Ampang, the Mid-Term Review organized by RC Sentul took place. Overall 55 Presidents registered however only 45 Presidents shown up to make their reports. Just for your information, our Club will be getting the Presidential Citation. Also, our Club's reputation on the Rotary Walks To End Polio was enormously appreciated and acknowledged by the District. PDG Dr. RT Arasu has recommended DG, Leslie Salehuddin to submit to RI for the Polio Project Award.

Fellow Pudu Rotarians, without your continuously support and effort, I don't think I could have accomplished this dream. With this, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Pudu Rotarians who have help in the event one way or the other.

At our 75th District Conference, RC Central Damansara (RCCD) has applied a Public Relation Grants and they were awarded with a sum of RM100,000 for this campaign. They have come out with some brilliant and ingenious ideas to advertise Rotary. Here, I have a car sticker given out by RCCD for you and a magazine namely, "IMAGE" which has our project in it and I would like to pass it around to you for your reading pleasure. Who those who have not have the car stickers, please collect it from Club Service Director Rtn Asok Kumar.

Fellow Pudu Rotarians don't forget our nett target 66. As I have mentioned at numerous meetings, we need your kind cooperation and help to invite your friends to our club. Please bear in mind that there is a timeline to our target and that is by

the end of June 2010. Our Club is counting on you and I too am counting on your support and effort.

Let me thank all of you in advance for this quest to reach to 66. With this, on behalf of our Board and members of Pudu Rotary Club, it gives me great honor for me to reintroduce Rtn Lawrance Annies back into our club.

Rtn Lawrance would like to say a few words.
To-date, our membership figure is now 61.

Fellow Rotarians, please don't leave our meeting early. Immediately after our Guest Speaker deliver her talk, kindly note that today is my 200 days in office and I would like to recognize and acknowledge a few Rotarians who have went an extra mile to get things done for the love of our Club. So, stay back.

Fellow Rotarians, Ladies and Gentleman, it is a great pleasure now, to call upon PP KU Rajah to introduce our Guest Speaker, AG Surina Suhaimi talking on Group Exchange Student Experiences in Africa RY1998/1999.

Today, as I have mentioned earlier, we are celebrating our 200 days of office and again, there are a few Rotarians whom I would like to acknowledge them.

But before that, please don't read me wrongly. It doesn't mean that those I didn't acknowledged are not good enough or are not supporting enough just that, these people have went an extra miles to get things done for the club. So, please I hope read me wrongly with regards to this good gesture in the name of 'Service Above Self'.

With this can I call upon our Club Bulletin Chairman, PP Richard Liew to receive my small token of appreciation. Besides editing my announcement and my message, he also pushes me so hard to write for every week's Berita Pudu and often have to send me reminders. Do you agree with me that he once again have set precedent in our Berita Pudu.

Who says that at this age of 70 you can endeavour any endurance exercises? This man has proven many people wrong. From my opinion, he is very energetic and youthful. When he heard about the walk for more than 510 Km to end polio, he was the first to participate without any hesitation. For this, it gives me great honor to acknowledge PP Dato' Muslim Ayob for his support and effort for walking from Rawang to Kuala Lumpur and on the last Segment from Sri Hartamas to Grand Dorsett Hotel, Subang Jaya. A total of more than 30 Km. Besides that, he also came out with his brilliant idea of having our eBerita Pudu published in our web page.

Next I would like to acknowledge our Fellowship "tai Koh tai". Rtn Patrick Lee. Without him you don't have any drinking holes to go for drinking. Although once in a while he will throw tantrum, he still helps our Club (he still is), in soliciting wine, beers, whisky and 'macam-macam' bottles for our fellowships. Not only that, sometimes, he has to ration them when there are insufficient supplies. And, very often he got bombarded for the rationing and furthermore, he has to record all the stock details in-order to prove that he himself didn't steal a single drop from the stock.

In line with fellowship, every year we need funds to fund our Sister Club's Fellowship Night. On the 3rd July 2010, another Sister's Club Fellowship Night will take place. Once again, at Rtn Steven Oon's residence. With this, I like to call upon this particular Past President. In fact, my award to him is an act to remind him that our raffle draw's income is doing just 'OK' at the moment. However, there are more rooms for increasing. Let's call upon PP Lim Lim Gary to come forward and I would like to award him this love portion to drink with his committee members and hope that after drinking the love

portion, the raffle draw's income can be increased like tongkat ali tremendously.

Rtn Robert Tan, you have worked silently and without any complain from you. Spontaneously you help our Programme Chairman on a few occasions in getting some VVIPs for our luncheon programmes. You too, deserved this acknowledgement and recognition.

Another Past President, who also working silently behind the scene. He launched the first community service project when I took office. His project is 'First Respond to Emergency'. I acknowledged him for keeping the Wednesday Lunch in KL and PJ intact. PP Choo Jee Sam, I acknowledged you for your fine work and hope you will continuously keep this warm and sumptuous lunch going. For those who are keen to join in, please approached PP Sam for more details.

Last but not least, Attendance Competition. As you know when we took office from 1st July 2009, we have our Attendance Competition Chairman, organized by Chairman, Rtn KK Yap who has meticulously planned this event. On the 7th December 2009, the first result was published while I am away for the walk. For this attendance competition, only one team will be entitled for the winning prize. Today, we got a winning team and the team is none other than Rtn CT Heng's team.

Fellow Rotarians, lets us put our hands together and congratulate his team for winning this first quarterly attendance competition. Can I now, have the honor to call upon the team leader, Rtn CT Heng, his team members, PP Richard Liew, PP NK Jasani, and Rtn Patrick Lee to come forward to receive your wining prizes.

Ladies and Gentleman, with regards to our club's attendance in our District 3300, we are now at second position. May I dedicate this result to all of you? It truly comes from every Pudu Rotarians' blood, sweat and tears.

We all make it to this positioning because we care, because we believed in our motto. That is, 'Involved We Are, Committed We Must Be'. On the same intent, can I appeal again to all members, especially the Board of Directors to propel and excel our team and yourself to aim for the 1st positioning? It is possible and making up nowadays is extremely easy. I hope with everyone's focus on the first positioning, it will be a 'BIG WOW' to us all one day. So, let's see to it.

With this I would like to pass the rostrum to our Honorary Secretary, Rtn Alex Chang to make his Secretary's Report.

Thank You.

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKER

PP KU Rajah introduced the guest speaker for the day who was none other than AG PP Surina Suhaimi who spoke on the subject on Group Study Exchange – Her Experiences In GSE South Africa RY 1998/99.

SPEAKER'S CV

PP SURINA SUHAIMI

- Is a lawyer by profession and runs her own firm in Temerloh, Pahang
- Joined the Rotary club of Temerloh in the year 2000
- Became President for Rotary year 2004-2005
- Was a former Rotaractor before joining Rotary
- Has held several District offices including GSE Committee, GSE Alumni, Club Service and Women's Membership Task Force.

- Current Assistant Governor of Group 3 consisting of all the Pahang clubs
- She is also currently the Coordinator for East Coast Emergency Relief Fund of the Yayasan Kelab-kelab Rotary Malaysia.

SPEAKER'S TEXT

I am here on PP Chow Tain's request, to talk about my GSE experiences. As some of you may be aware, I was on the team to District 9300, South Africa some 12 years ago and the team leader was none other than your PP VG Chandran, whom today the team members affectionately refer to as "Bapak". Now, I would think that to now relate to you of our trip 12 years ago may be 12 years too late, 12 years too far back to catch your attention and perhaps 12 years too old a team member to be addressing you on her experiences.

Now what I propose to do is to use those experiences and the added little experience that I have in organising inbound some past GSE team programmes in our District as a background to the talk I am about to partake; and perhaps at least some of the things that I am about to share with you may be of some ideas to your club in its future hosting of teams.

I learnt from your club handbook 2007 that your club has been hosting GSE team members since 1985-1986 when the first GSE member hosted was from D764 New Jersey. Back then, with my admission of lack of knowledge of history at that time, clubs would host 1 member each and not a whole team and I would presume the organising of hosting during that time would be somewhat different than what we are used to day, i.e. by hosting a whole team by any particular club.

GET TO KNOW THE TEAM MEMBERS BEFORE THEY ARRIVE

Months before a GSE team arrives in our District, the clubs who have agreed to host the team are well-informed of the identity, vocation, age, interests of the team members and leader. There is a reason for this: firstly, so that the team member may then be hosted by a Rotarian of the same vocation or at least someone with common interests or background as that team member. Example, if the team member is a vegetarian, then it would be easier if another vegetarian Rotarian hosted that particular team member, for obvious reasons.

VOCATIONAL VISITS

Secondly, it would then be easier for the club to determine and arrange for the necessary vocational visits for the team members. Now I do notice that clubs tend to emphasise more on the cultural experiences for the team but it must worthy to note that RI has listed the vocational activities first before cultural experiences followed by fellowship and Rotarian involvement. Why is that so?

THE CRUX OF THE GSE PROGRAM

Because the GSE program was designed to develop professional & leadership skills to better the team in addressing the needs of their own communities and to prepare them for a more global workplace. From the same program, Rotary hopes that it would establish humanitarian projects between the 2 District involved. The team would observe how their vocations are practised in the host country and from there develop professional and personal relationships and in the end, create a more harmonised world for all.

CHOOSE HOSTS WITH SIMILAR BACKGROUNDS

We'll step back into my South African experience for me to deliberate on this second point first. I am a lawyer by profession and during the GSE visit, I was hosted by 3 different lawyers,

a couple of retired law enforcement officers and if the club did not have a lawyer who able to host me, the Rotarian host would deliberately invite his own family or business lawyer to come over to the house for dinner and we would talk about a lot of thing related to the legal profession. With the lawyers as my hosts, I was able to accompany them for at least 2 days of my stay with them to work, to court, to meet other members of the Bar, to meet the judicial officers within their area of work and to talk to their staff members about work generally. I was able to go through some files, engage in discussions about certain areas of the law with their partners of their colleagues and this is not even the vocational bit of the GSE visit. With the vocational bit coming in, I was able sit meet the Secretary of the Constitutional Court, to sit in during trials in the criminal courts, small claims courts, make visits to magistrates in chambers, go to the land Registry and see how their land transactions are carried out, see the model for how a child sexual victim gives evidence in court, visit a state prison (and out of this world experience) and also visit a few law lecturers in their faculties. Now when I compare the experience I was able to obtain through my GSE visit with that offered by some hosts clubs from our District, I sometimes wonder whether we are merely paying lip service to this program. Of course, it is nor expected of each and every club to provide vocational visits for the team but it would be good to do a bit of research and stretch out a bit to try to get them the necessary experience and exchange suitable for them so that the actual targets set by Rotary are met. My other team mates had similar number of activities provided by the Rotary clubs and one of my team members, who was working with WWF at that time even had a chance to go on air to talk about animal conservation on the local radio.

I do believe that when vocational visits are organised with a lot of thought, the GSE team will have a successful program to go back to their country with.

THE HOME EXPERIENCE

Now comes the cultural part and when we are talking about cultural experience, think about home first. It is always reminded to Rotarian hosts to not turn their homes suddenly into hotels for the team members. Live your day as you always do and through observing your daily routine, the team member would be able to ascertain what life is like for you and what you consider important as a person. I have met so many inbound GSE team members who whispered to me as an ex-GSE member and not a Rotarian, that the daily late nights eating out, partying and karaoke-ing the night through were sometimes taken to a notch too far. In the Asian hospitable way, at times, Rotarian hosts fill up all time gaps with loads of fellowship, which is not bad if done moderately. These are 4 people who live out of their suitcases for 4 weeks and having to endure late nights every day, is going to sooner drain their energy and be unable to enjoy the necessary activities due to lack of concentration when it is required of them. Take them into your homes, and treat them as semi-guests and not total guests. If you do your own laundry, let them to theirs. If you iron your own clothes, let them do theirs. If you wake up at 6 in the morning for your daily walk, invite them to join you. If you have your friends weekly to the house for a coffee evening, don't cancel it because they are around. In fact, get them to be in the group. Let them see how you live and conduct your routines. If everyone in the house makes their own coffee in the morning for breakfast, tell them this is how it is done and tell them where to find the mug, the teaspoon, the sugar, the milk and yes, the coffee. Show them your fridge and tell them where to get what.

There is no need to rush them out of the house everyday for meals when you usually have your own dinner at home. In

my own experience in South Africa, There are times when I would not meet my own team members for 2-3 days because it happened to be in the middle of a public holiday and one the couple I stayed with at the time would, on public holidays, usually drive to their daughter's farm and visit their grandchildren. This I did, drive into the sticks, to the farm, got to observe what their daughter actually does as a hobby – she designs doll houses and decorative chicken coups! That was interesting! I cliqued immediately with their little grandson and I had such a good time walking around the farm with him.

EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH YOUR TEAM MEMBER

With most hosts, although there were nights when the club would a fellowship night with presentation from our team, the other nights would just be with the host family and a typical night would be to sit in the lounge, chat about everything about them, about me, about the 2 countries and a lot about our culture. From these night chats, I would say, I learnt a great deal about the Rotarian and his family, his focus in life, his views about politics, economy, his own country and I made sure he and his family, his focus in life, his views about politics, economy, his own country and I made sure he and his family learnt about mine. Why, because the Rotarian and his family must benefit from that visit. There must have been something departed to them, to ensure that there is an exchange of at least ideas. If you have a team member in your house who has yet to tell you much about his own, get him/her to take out their album and talk about their lives. There is a lot of learn about another person, from another culture, from another place on this Earth.

Also allow them to cook a meal for you if they offer to. See what they come up with and perhaps enjoy a bit of their own cooking.

CULTURAL EXPERIENCE IN MALAYSIA INCLUDING THEIR OWN

Cultural experiences are easier to cater for. We have a vast array of culture here and I think you will not be short of letting the team enjoy every bit of Malaysian culture that you can introduce to them. And if there is something in this country that relates to them, show it. For me, the South African Rotarians, went out of their way to take us to an ostrich farm which was run by a Cape Malay Family. We were also taken a Muslim family's house to have dinner as the man of the house was a good friend of the Rotarians of that particular club. We were introduced to a director of a Malaysian public listed company who was developing a luxurious residential over there. I was also this close to attending meeting between my host who was a town councillor and our own prodigy, Dato Sam, who was applying to open up a gambling resort in that town. At the same time, although we were hosted by the whites at a time when Nelson Mandela was at the end of his term, we were able to mingle with the blacks during our vocational visits, our club visits, and through families inviting them to the house or just by talking to their maids. There were no black Rotarians yet at that time.

NO NEED FOR EXTRA ICING ON THE CAKE

Be direct about who and what we are. There is no need to sweep the not so good news under the carpet and pretend that the community is one thing whereas in reality it is another. Now why do I say this. When I was there, one of my hosts pointed out to me that my team member, Letchumy, was far darker than anyone else in the team and it was hinted to me that it would be nice if we did not have diners with Letchumy and her hosts. I was taken aback by this at first, but it later dawned on me that the country had not fully gotten over the concept of apartheid. I learnt much later, that many of my own hosts, lost their family members in a number of murders committed by the blacks. But I was constantly told by the

Rotarians that they had never supported apartheid when it was still implemented. But my final host told me blankly that it would be a lie if any of the whites told me that they had not supported apartheid, because the majority who voted for the apartheid government, were the whites. I believe this was more of the truth and appreciated the truth as it was, although it did not sound good. At least I can put in place a lot of observations during the visit into its rightful corner.

NOT ALL IN OUR OWN BACKYARD IS PLEASANT

In our own place, are we as forthright with them? It is subjective. 2 team members we hosted from Japan a few years ago blurted out during dinner in my home, that they were taken to a Chinese cemetery in Kuala Pilah and was told to pay their respects because the people who were buried in this cemetery were all victims of Japanese cruelty during the Japanese occupation. They told me they did not know how to react but stayed silent and paid their respects. They knew there was still a bit of anger against their ancestors but they could only apologies without understanding the full extent of what was going on. This might seem rather disturbing at first, but in my opinion, it was told as it is. Although they knew there are a spattering of older Chinese people who would not sit down and have a conversation with them purely because they were Japanese, this was meant for their observation and understanding about how some communities view them.

WHAT ATTRACTS TEAM MEMBERS TO BECOME ROTARIANS?

Now, my team led by PP VG Chandran had for many years, perhaps I am bold enough to say, been a example to many teams because all our team members became Rotarians, although now only 2 of us are still in Rotary. Jennifer left for Canada and is still finding the Canadian clubs less attractive or motivating to join, Edward left RC Bukit Kiara Sunrise, to concentrate on building his legal firm and group of restaurants. The District, although has emphasised on trying to get GSE team members to join Rotary, it is now almost accepted that even if you don't get to rope them in, it doesn't really matter as long as they carrying the Rotary spirit in their everyday professional and personal lives.

But why the whole of my team was interested to join Rotary when we come back, was not really because of District 3300's Rotarians' influence. It was because of the District 9300's influence. The Rotarians were well prepared to have us, they welcomed us into their homes, their lives, they went the mile to ensure we gained an inch in our vocational activities, they showed us tremendous sincerity in carrying out long standing community service work which required great commitment in terms of time and finance. Some projects had been going on regularly for the 20 years, involving purchase of land, managing historical sites, managing community health centres, managing old folks homes on their own land. I think if we Rotarians put a bit more effort into what we do for this program, the Rotary world would definitely benefit from it as a whole. We wee so taken by their display of the 4-way test and Service Above Self that when we were on the plane home, we talked about joining Rotary when we had the chance to.

CAN YOU HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WAY THE TEAM MEMBERS THINK AHEAD?

Yes, it can be done in a very short time, even as individuals. You might think that by staying with you for 3 days in your home will not have much impact on the team members who stay with you. You are then totally wrong. They observe you, what you say, how you treat your family, how you carry out your daily chores and try to understand your beliefs. Because of one of host family who were particular about recycling in the

home, I implemented the same in my own home. They created this simple rubbish bin which was stacked above their kitchen sink – it had 3 compartments, one for general food waste, one for bottles and glass, one for paper cartons. Everything that we wanted to throw away in the house, went through a sift system, i.e. the lady of the house and her maids would ensure that all garbage went compartmentalised in its different recycle bin. I have had such a bin, home-made, ever since I came back.

I have spoken to many team members who have been to our District and they would tell me at least one characteristic of a host family or the host Rotarian that really stuck to their minds. It is sometimes our habits that we brush off on them, whether you realise it or not.

There was also a safari dinner concept that one club used to run every month. For this safari dinner, as they call it, you start of having appetisers in one home with 6 other people, the next course in another house with another set of people, and the next and only finally meet the whole club at offer dinner

in one particular Rotarian home! They used a mathematical calculation to do this, and it has been a success ever since. I think my team member Edward was quite taken with the way these people entertained whilst having fellowship that he has integrated much of that into the way he throws his own parties at this restaurants, which are always so interesting and looked forward to.

And for me, one host also taught me how to sing their National Anthem in Afrikaans!

With that, I hope you will be able to get some idea on how best to host the Future GSE teams.

THANKING OF GUEST SPEAKER

PP V G Chandran on behalf of the Club thanked the guest speaker AG PP Surina Suhaimi by presenting her with a certificate of appreciation and a token from our club for giving us an excellent talk.

Weekly Meeting on 25 January 2010.....





ROTARY INFORMATION

After taking the stage to the tune of "California, Here I Come," RI President-elect Ray Klinginsmith announced the 2010-11 RI theme, *Building Communities – Bridging Continents*, during the opening plenary session of the 2010 International Assembly.

Klinginsmith said he arrived at the theme after reviewing RI themes of years past. He noticed that only a few spoke to non-Rotarians.

"As a result, I decided to search for a briefly stated theme that would fulfill two objectives: the first to explain Rotary to non-Rotarians, and the second to validate our work for Rotarians," he said. "The words I have selected to describe Rotary's current mission and to highlight our achievements are what we do best: *Building Communities – Bridging Continents*."

The president-elect described how his 50 years of Rotary experience have contributed to his focus on communities at home and abroad. For example, as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, he studies for a year in South Africa, becoming the first student from his small town of Unionville, Missouri, USA, to study abroad.

The timing of the theme announcement, which took place in the evening, was a break in tradition from past assemblies and a reflection of Klinginsmith's willingness to embrace change. He encouraged district governors-elect to reexamine traditional producers that were no longer best practices and to begin new traditions where appropriate.

He also paid homage to Rotarians of the past who helped raise Rotary to a place of prominence on the world stage. He urged district governors-elect to meet the past RI presidents and

other former officers in attendance to deepen their connection to Rotary's past.

"I love it," says Governor-elect Robert Martin, of District 5020 (British Columbia, Canada; Washington, USA). "I'm going to be promoting Rotary pride in our district next year, and Building Communities – Bridging Continents is something we can all be proud of."

2nd Letter from San Diego

Dear Friends,

It is now Fri afternoon and the International Assembly will be over tomorrow.

Wed was mainly a TRF day with both morning and afternoon sessions filled with TRF issues. As incoming TRF Chair Past President Carl Wilhelm featured in both sessions. Similarly the Group discussions were on TRF topics.

Particularly to the Pudu Rotarians, Paul and I attended the early morning meeting of Gary McElroy's club San Diego Sunrise. They start at 0730 and finish sharp at 0830 so we were able to get back on time for the plenary session just before 0900. Their meeting place is the University Club, a private club on a high floor so you get a panoramic view of downtown SD and the bay.

Thurs was devoted to leadership issues. There was a speaker talking about how to cope with "Gen Y", ie the younger folks. Some interesting points. Pres Ray finished off with thoughts on the question of "Are we Leaders or Managers?"

Today's sessions are mainly to do with administrative issues. I have just had my official photo taken with the President and wife. As a 'single' I got in early on the queue whilst the others were waiting for their spouses to show up. (Spouses have separate programmes but come together for meals, plenaries and special events.)

Tonight is talent night so I shall look forward to performance from various colleagues.

Weather is still variable, rainy spells and cloudy weather with strong winds. The newspapers reported flooding in some parts.

It has been an unforgettable experience and it still continues to be with best regards to all

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL NEWS

RI Presidential Citation 2010-11

BUILDING COMMUNITITES BRIDGING CONTINENTS - RI PRESIDENTIAL CITATION 2010-11

What is Rotary? What does a Rotary club do? These questions are often asked of Rotarians by prospective members and other interested people, and they are difficult to answer effectively in a few short minutes.

Although our primary motto Service Above Self highlights our altruistic nature, it fails to answer the two questions. Therefore, I decided to search for a briefly stated theme that would fulfill two objectives:

The first to explain the purpose of Rotary to non-Rotarians and the second to confirm and validate the importance of our principles to Rotarians.

In my search for the right words, I reviewed the four Avenues of Service and noted that Club Service and Vocational Service both help us to enjoy life and to be good citizens. Community Service and Vocational Service combine to make our local communities better places for us to live and work. And International Service permits us to partner with clubs in other countries and on different continents to make the world a better place to live with an improved opportunity for world understanding, goodwill, and peace.

It is important to remember that Rotary is a "spirit of service" as well as an organization of Rotary clubs, and we need to share our core values of service, fellowship, diversity, integrity, and leadership with other people and organizations. I considered many words and phrases to capture the essence of Rotary, and the words I finally selected to describe Rotary's current mission and to highlight our achievements are what we do best:

Building Communities - Bridging Continents

I hope you agree that these four words aptly reflect who we are, and what we do, as Rotarians. We are a unique and a premier organization - certainly one of the best in the world. We build the spirit and resources of our local communities in an important way, and we are the best in the world at linking people of goodwill around the globe and then gaining their cooperation and support to make the world a much better place to live and work. In the words of Ed Cadman, "Rotary is unity without uniformity."

We are indeed fortunate to be Rotarians!

I applied the same philosophy in developing the Presidential Citation for 2010-11. I consider each of the four Avenues of Service to be equally important, and we have created a new citation program in the form of a questionnaire to help clubs test their effectiveness in all four avenues. We also have produced a higher-level "Presidential Citation with Distinction" to challenge those clubs that routinely earn the annual presidential citations.

We hope the new questionnaire will be a helpful tool to both the clubs and the district governors as we seek to lengthen our stride and improve our levels of fellowship and service, as we move forward into the second century of service for Rotary International, which started with the first convention of Rotary clubs in 1910.

Ray Klingensmith

President, Rotary International, 2010-11

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Rotary Clubs around the Klang Valley Meeting Information

DAYS	TIME	ROTARY CLUBS	VENUE
Monday	1245	RC Pudu	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
	1730	RC Cyberjaya	1st Floor, MSC Innovation Centre, Cyberjaya
	1830	RC Pantai Valley	Kuala Lumpur Golf & Country Club, Bukit Kiara, KL
	1900	RC Titivangsa	Royal Selangor Club, KL
	1930	RC Brickfields	Royal Selangor Club, KL
	2000	RC Senawang	Royal Sungei Ujong Club, Senawang, Seremban
Tuesday	1230	RC Cheras	Wenworth Hotel, Pudu
	1245	RC Petaling Jaya	Grand Dorsett Hotel, Subang Jaya
	1815	RC Bangsar	Royal Selangor Club, KL
	1830	RC Bandar Utama	Business Centre, One World Hotel, Bandar Utama, PJ
	1830	RC Metro KL	Banker's Club, Amoda Building, Jln. Imbi, KL
	1900	RC Kajang	Prescot Metro Inn, Kajang
	1930	RC Danau Desa	Wisma Belia, 1st Floor, Room 711, Jalan Syed Putra, KL
	1945	RC Port Klang	Royal Klang Club, Klang
	2000	RC USJ	Pahlawan Room, 5th floor, Summit Hotel, USJ
Wednesday	1230	RC Ampang	Novotel Hotel, No 2, Jln Kia Peng, KL
	1245	RC KL Di-Raja	Shangri-La Hotel, KL
	1245	RC Shah Alam	Kelab Shah Alam, Shah Alam
	1745	RC Subang	Holiday Villa Subang, Subang Jaya
	1830	RC KL North	Royal Selangor Club, KL
	1830	RC Sri Petaling	Sri Petaling Hotel, Sri Petaling, KL
	1930	RC Bandar Sunway	Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel, Subang
	1930	RC Central Damansara	Royal Commonwealth Club, Damansara Heights, KL
	1930	RC Bukit Komanwel	Bukit Jalil Golf & Country Club
	2000	RC Kampung Baharu	Selesa Inn, No 285-287, Jln Tuanku Abdul Rahman, KL
	2000	RC Damansara West	Sri Damansara Club, Bandar Sri Damansara, KL
	2000	RC Sungei Way	Bukit Kiara Equestrian & Country Club, Bukit Kiara, KL
	2015	RC Port Dickson	Royal Port Dickson Yatch Club, Port Dickson
Thursday	2030	RC Melawati	K Club, Taman Melawati, KL
	2030	RC Lembah Damansara	Tropicana Golf & Country Club, PJ
	1245	RC Klang	Royal Klang Club, Klang
	1245	RC Gombak	Corus Hotel, Jln Ampang, KL
	1245	RC Seremban	Royal Bintang Hotel, Seremban
	1730	RC Damansara	Royal Selangor Club, KL
	1900	RC Sentul	PDRM Golf Club, Titivangsa, KL
Friday	1900	RC Kelana Jaya	Bukit Kiara Equestrian & Country Resort, KL
	1900	RC Puchong	9, Jln BK 3/2, Bdr Kinrara, Puchong
	2000		
Saturday	1845	RC KL West	Royal Selangor Club, KL
	2030	RC Bernam Valley	2nd Flr, 19B, Jln Bdr Rawang 1, Rawang
Sunday	0730	RC Bukit Kiara Sunrise	Bukit Kiara Equestrian & Country Resort, KL
	0900	RC Lembah Damansara	Tropicana Golf & Country Resort, PJ

Rotaract Club of Pudu meets on the 2nd & 4th Saturdays at Eurasian Club, Jalan Pudu

THE FOUR- WAY TEST

**Of The Things We Think,
Say, or Do.**

- 1. Is it the TRUTH?**
- 2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?**
- 3. Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?**
- 4. Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?**

*Conceived by Herbert J. Taylor, a Chicago Rotarian in July 1932
In January 1943, Rotary International Board Of Directors agreed that
'The 4-Way Test' should be part of Vocational Service Ideal.
Herbert J Taylor was RI President in 1954-55*