

BERITA
(For Members Only)



PUDU

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*The Weekly Bulletin
of The Rotary Club of Pudu*



This website is sponsored

by

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Programme Today	
Speaker	: MR. LEE WEE MIN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOCUS ON THE FAMILY MALAYSIA
Subject	: BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES
ON DUTY	
Duty Table	: George Heng
Fellowship	: Daisy Chiu
Finemaster	: Heng Choun Tee
Introduce	: Patrick Lee
Thanking	: Robert Tan

Happy Birthday!
Rtn George Heng Chun Hau (17th January) Ann Geok Hwa (PP Patrick Lee) (19th January) Rtn Alex Chang Huey Wah (20th January) Rtn Dr. Wong Chin Chaw (20th January) Rtn Tan Peng Huat (21st January) PP Gary Lim Beng Huat (22nd January)
Happy Anniversary!
Rtn K.A. Kumar & Ann Prema (19th January) PE Steven Oon Hoon Nam & Ann Boon Kee (22nd January)

Programme	On Duty
Speaker : MR. RAJ RIDVAN SINGH, SOLS 24/7 Subject : REACHING OUT TO NEEDY YOUTH-(SOLS 24/7)	Duty Table : Asok Kumar Fellowship : Lee Su Zane Finemaster : Alex Chang Introduce : Y.K. Chew Thanking : K.U. Rajah

Next Week

Diary 17th January - 6th February 2011						
Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
17 12.30 pm Rotary Lunch Meeting 2.00 pm Membership Committee Mtg. Shangri-La KL	18	19	20 7.00 pm Service to New Generations Meeting Marco Polo Rest.	21	22	23
24 12.30 pm Rotary Lunch Meeting Card Room, Selangor Club - Dataran	25	26	27 7.00 pm BOD meeting Royal Lake Club	28 3.00 pm Interact Co-ordinating Council - ICC SMK Methodist	29	30
31 12.30 pm Rotary Lunch Meeting Shangri-La KL	1 HARI WILAYAH PERSEKUTUAN (CITY DAY)	2 7.00 pm Club Administrative Committee Meeting Marco Polo Rest.	3 CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS 7.00 pm Rotary Foundation Committee Mtg. Royal Lake Club	4 CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS	5 5.00 pm Pudu Rotaract Meeting	6

GOOD SPEAKERS

Without doubt, our regular meetings would be more interesting and exciting if we have good speakers. So far our Program Chairman Rtn Sarky is doing a good job and he had lined up speakers speaking on subjects of great interest to us. For example, he had Mr Chris Low speaking to us on “Capital Growth with Blue Chip Wines” on 3rd Jan. From Chris we learnt a new thing called Fine Wine Index and one was able to invest in Fine Wines. And on 10th Jan we had Mr Terence Fernandez and Mr Citizen Nades talking to us on “Investigative Journalism” a subject which drew so much interest from members that we had to extend the meeting time another half hour! The two speakers had us looking at the subject from a fresh perspective. One would have thought that it was a glamorous career being such a journalist but from the talk we heard that it was a tough job and subjected to much pressure from many parties.

Good topics and speakers certainly draw members to the meetings. Besides members we too have guests who could be impressed by the speaker and thus give a good impression on Rotary. Certainly it is a good tool for Membership Development.

Besides food which is important to attract members to meetings, having good speakers is also important. It gives more reason for members to attend the meetings. When members leave the meetings feeling good and having learnt something, it motivates them to attend the next one. Furthermore they might not come alone and would even bring in a friend to share. After all it kills two birds with one stone. Good Food and Good Speaker.

It is certainly not easy to get good speakers week in week out. Thus if you are called upon by Sarky to help out or if you had come across someone who can speak on an interesting subject to us, do help him. If you do, in a way, you would be participating indirectly in Membership Development and Retention.

Shoulders of Giants



Last weekend I attended the District 3300 Mid Term Review.

Presidents within our district were asked to do a “health check” on their respective club, based on a set of questionnaires and against the RY2010/2011 Presidential Citation checklist. I found the sessions and discussions very useful. After a going through a busy 6 months of club activities, I was “forced” to stop, sit back and look at our club objectively.

How did our club fared? I would summarise it as “reasonably healthy, with room for improvements”. In particular, for the RI Presidential Citation, our club had scored well in many of the criteria within the Vocational Service, Community Service and International Service categories. However, in the Club Service criteria, we are lacking in the following:-

1. We have yet to formalize a Membership Development and Retention Plan,
2. We have yet to formalize a written 3 year strategic plan, and,
3. We have only just achieved a net gain of 1 member in 6 months.

It was good for me to know what we have to focus on within the next few months.

It was also an eye opening session for me. I noticed some fellow presidents found difficulties in achieving certain criteria that a Pudu Rotary Club President would easily marks off the checklist. For example, “Does your club sponsor an Interact or Rotaract club?”, “Has your club given vocational service award to an individual? an organization?”.

While I took pride in all these accomplishments of our club, I am more humbled as I know for a fact that I am only treading on the big footprints of my 43 previous past presidents.

Never before has this phrase means more to me than now, that ***I can stand higher and see further than others because I am a dwarf standing on shoulders of Giants.***

In Rotary Service,
President RY 2010/2011

Pudu News

Record of Meeting on 10th January 2011

Guest Speaker : Mr. Terence Fernandez
Subject : Investigative Journalism

VISITING ROTARIANS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
IPP Tiffany Tan	RC Titiwangsa
IPP Janice Lim	RC Bandar Utama

GUESTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Host</u>
Mr. Terence Fernandez	Guest Speaker
Mr. R. Mageswaren	Guest Speaker
Mr. Choo Jay-San	PP Sam
Ms Victorine Su Ling	President Leong

STATISTICS

Visiting Rotarians	:	2
Guests	:	4
Club Members	:	21
Total Present	:	27

COLLECTIONS

Birthdays / Anniversaries / Fines	:	RM 117.00
Paying Diners	:	RM 120.00
Raffles & Others	:	RM 72.00
Total	:	RM309.00

Club Proceedings

Sgt-at-Arms Rtn Stanley Pereira called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm and proceeded to introduce the visiting Rotarians and Guests. He then led in the singing of the National Anthem and proposed the loyal toast.

Finemaster was VP Heng who declared he was doing this duty for the first time this year and fined PP YK Chew for giving misleading information on this to members. As CNY was just round the corner, he proposed a fine of RM1 for everyone for being so busy. In the bulletin it was announced that PP Gary Lim was given a District Award and for that Gary had to pay a due of RM10. Those without name tag or tie were each fined a ringgit. Those sitting at the back like PE Steven Oon and Rtn Laura Lee were also fined one ringgit each. PP Sam had his son with him and for this good training, Sam had to part with RM1/. IPP Robin was fined a ringgit for the forthcoming scholarship presentation project at PESS. PP YK Chew had a birthday song sung for him and he paid out RM50. Ann Rowena's birthday was also forthcoming a PP Gary paid out RM5.

Reading the Rotary Information was Rtn Daisy Chiu.

President's Announcement

Welcome to Pudu Rotary Club's RY2010/2011's 25th Weekly Meeting.

Last week our club had carried out the following activities:-

- The Scholarship Committee held their meeting at Ho Wei Restaurant on Thursday 6 Jan 2011, chaired by IPP Robin Tay.
- On the same evening, RC PJ held its 50th Anniversary Dinner celebration at Sunway Resort Hotel. Our club was represented by 8 persons, namely, DG Kok Beng, PDG Paul Lee, Incoming president Steven Oon & Rotary Ann Boon Kee, PP Michael Yeow, Hon Sec Lawrance, VP Heng and I.
- The District Conference thanking dinner was successfully held at Incoming Steven Oon's residence on Friday evening.
- The District 3300 Mid Term Review was held last weekend in Taiping. It was a good review whereby club presidents have to take stock on how their respective clubs had fared against the RI Presidential citation and there was a good forum to discuss about club issues.
- A group of 13 PRC members visited PP VG Chandran at his residence on Sunday. PP VG was recuperating well.

Highlights of the upcoming Club events,

- On Saturday 15 January 2011, our club will be presenting scholarships & undergraduate grants at SMK (P) Pudu.

- b) On Sunday 16 January 2011, we will be visiting the Jenjarom Old Folks Homes again to bring the cheers for Chinese New Year. With popular demand from the old folks, we will bring back the Pau & Dim Sum Van. After the visit, our club members will continue our “makan” fellowship to be organized by Incoming PE Heng. Those who are attending, please give your names to VP Heng.

Upcoming District Events,

- a) The D3300 Rotary Kinabalu Polio Challenge will be from 13-17 January 2011.
- b) The Pre Pets 2 Presidents-Elect Training Seminar (PETS), RY 2011-2012, will be held on 19 - 20 February 2011. This is a mandatory and vital training program for all Presidents-Elect for Rotary Clubs.
- c) RYLA training seminar for youth will be held from 3 - 6 March 2011 at Intekma Shah Alam.
- d) The 77th District 3300 Assembly will be held from the 8 - 10 April 2011 at the Bayview Beach Hotel, Batu Ferringhi, Penang

C.V. of Speaker

Introducing the speaker Mr Terence Fernandez who was to speak on the topic “Investigative Journalism” was Rtn Lawrance. Terence was born in Kuala Krai, Kelantan and schooled in Kuala Krai till Form 6. He has a Diploma in Business Administration and up till now was still attempting to finish his law school. He started his journalism career in the Malay Mail in 1996 covering crime, education and local council news. He was in Brunei in 1999 to set up a newspaper and began a partnership with Citizen Nades in December 1999 when he joined the Sun as the Chief Reporter. Later he held a desk job for 4 years as Assistant News Editor. His forage into Investigative Journalism in 2005 in partnership with Citizen Nades. Together they had award winning stories like:

1. Port Klang Assemblyman Zakaria Deros
2. Wetlands Park Scandal that cost the taxpayers RM60 million
3. Criticized the High Performance Training Centre in London
4. The Port Klang Free Trade Zone Scandal and many others.

The Talk

According to Terence, the subject of Investigative Journalism could be a boring subject as it involved a lot of shifting through piles of documents. So far he had not met any intern who was interested to be such a journalist. They merely wanted to be in the entertainment, covering celebrities, etc. sections. Most of the time, the job entailed getting documents and reading them for leads. Because of the very nature of the information, they had to ensure that the information published were not defamatory and therefore attract law suits. Despite his cautious approach, still he was slammed with 3 law suits involving millions of ringgit. So far though, in order to survive, they had to be accurate.

They, his partnership with Nades, were successful on a number of reports, as outlined in the CV. Terence then invited Nades to join in the talk. Nades as an introduction mentioned that Investigative Journalism was not popular in our country as there were laws governing what could be published, e.g. the Printing and Information ACT. Also the newspapers were subjected to licensing yearly which was restrictive. We were quite different from UK as they had a different set of laws and culture. In the final analysis, he opined that our country was not ready for Investigative Journalism and therefore difficult to make a career of.

Citizen Nades disclosed that in order for democracy to flourish there must be some openness something which he mentioned that he had advised the Government many times. That's because when there was censorship whether voluntary or enforced news could be slanted or doctored the main stream newspaper could not disseminate the correct news. Readers tend to turn to electronic news which was difficult to counter. Another matter brought up by Terence and Nades was that the truth was the best way out and was the best defense.

In answer to some queries, Terence mentioned that his newspaper supported them fully and they even had an inhouse lawyer to help out. However in the pursue to the truth, statistics showed that though they had stirred up some interest on some subjects they were not very successful in bringing the perpetrators to court. They had highlighted 360 cases and only one had been brought to court.

Thanking them for the interesting talk was PP Sam who presented Terence with a memento and a certificate of appreciation.

APPEAL FOR DONATION TO SET UP DIALYSIS CENTRE IN PANDAN INDAH, KUALA LUMPUR

The Rotary Club of Pudu, together with its partner-in-service, St. John Ambulans Malaysia, is planning to set up a dialysis center catering mainly to the lower income/disadvantaged group in early 2011.

A recent survey by St. John Ambulans shows a great need for a location in Pandan Indah, KL which has a heavy density of urban poor and a growing demand for this life saving service. We envisage the provision of 10 dialysis machines, each costing RM45,000.00. St John is very efficient in running dialysis centers and they now run 15 centres servicing 400 patients in the country. Pudu Rotary Club raises the necessary funds for the center. PRC has raised over RM2 million since 2004, helping to set up centers in Klang, Rawang, Raub, and Shah Alam, catering to 142 patients.

The number of diabetic patients seeking dialysis treatment is growing and demands outstrip supply, hence, we try to do our bit for the community. Each machine is capable of saving 4 human lives and we appeal to your generosity to help in this worthy cause.

A tax-exempt receipt will be issued to donors.

On behalf of all those patients who are about to benefit from your kind contribution, we thank you.

Yours sincerely

Signed by
PP Choo Jee Sam
Chairman
Fund Raising Committee





VP Heng first fine-tuning session in 2011.



President Choy Ying was happy.



PP Phang was happy to be back.



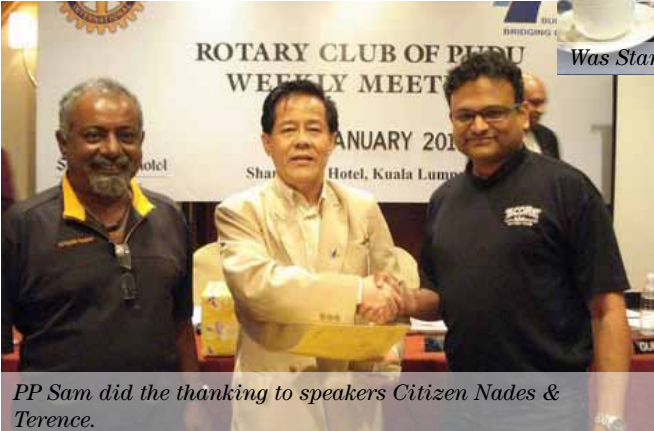
PDG Dr. Paul Lee with Citizen Nades.



PE Steven was pleased with the attention.



Was Stanley giving a finger?



PP Sam did the thanking to speakers Citizen Nades & Terence.

AT THE MEETING ON 10TH JANUARY 2011

**VISITING THE JENJAROM
OLD FOLKS HOME ON SUNDAY
16 JANUARY 2011 "Greetings
from some of the inmates"**

**CHINESE
NEW
YEAR
CHEERS!**



BEFORE & AFTER (at the 76th RI District 3300 Conference)



After.....



Excerpts from PRI PRESIDENT'S SPEECH at the 76th RI District 3300 Conference

Bhichai Rattakul, the Past RI President, was the keynote speaker at the recently concluded District Conference held at the Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. He started his speech by saying that he is **"overpowered by two emotions....pride and humility."**

He spoke of Rotary's **PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE** whereby "it comes to us in the opportunity that is ours to encourage, to stimulate, and develop community projects, both local and worldwide, through dedicated members...**our arms around their shoulders without any words may be all that is necessary!**" Bhichai believes that Rotarians have a responsibility to share with those who have little or none. "This is our dream to make a reality out of Rotary. This is our effort to make Rotary become...**Bigger, better and bolder!**" Bhichai's speech centres around this year's Rotary Theme of **Building Communities and Bridging Continents**.

It was poignant to note his **closing statement**, namely "my dear friends, looking back to the 53 long years of my Rotary service, and now at (age) 85, I am now nearing the end of my long Rotary journey. But, I hope I still have some very limited time left in my life to serve. However that may be, and whatever may befall, I am sure that I shall never forget the emotions of this day or be able to express my gratitude to you and to those old colleagues of mine in the old District 330 who have all gone before me....with whom I have lived my life!"

Below are some **excerpts** from Bhichai's Keynote speech:

"You know that out of the meeting of the four men who met on that freezing night of 23 February, 1905 in that windy city of Chicago, the first Rotary Club was born...frankly speaking without any clear cut direction where to go, and what to do. But the idea was there....getting to know each other better and enjoying fellowship among them. Although, there was nothing wrong with this initial idea, the four men did come up with an **idea of service...thoughtfulness of and helpfulness to others**. This has become the **philosophy** of Rotary....the desire and the

determination **to do good in the world**. The motto: **Service Above Self** was thus born!"

"Rotary, has much to be proud of its past performances. However, I think that as we continue our journey into the second century of our existence, Rotary for its own part must decide what it wants to do in the next 100 years for the organization to remain relevant and continue to play a leadership role in a changing world....Rotary no longer has the focus it once had in the community, many claimed. More and more the focus of Rotary is shifting away from service orientated to fund-raising, and in many cases, the end is used to justify the means of fund-raising. All over the world, concerned, committed Rotarians who love this organization worry that Rotary is no longer relevant. Where has **the philosophy** of Rotary gone? What has gone wrong?"

"We must never forget what brings us into Rotary, and what really binds us to take up Rotary so seriously as a part of our lives. In the simplest term, what really has an impact on our lives as Rotarians is that the ideal of service arises from the selfishness that stems from the desire to serve. It is because of this fact, that at the **1923 Convention** the Rotary world has adopted what we called, the **Statement on Community Service**". This Statement specifically gives a clear guidance of Rotarians and Rotary Clubs to formulate a policy for Rotary toward community service activities....among other things, two important principles which are the **heart and soul** of Rotary, and which we practice in our daily life. They are:-

First: Fundamentally, Rotary is a philosophy of life that undertakes to reconcile the ever present conflict between the desire to profit for one's self and the duty and the consequent impulse to serve others. This philosophy is the philosophy of service, **"Service Above Self"**, and is based on the practical ethical principle that, **"They Profit Most Who Serve Best."**

Second Principle, in part, indicates very clearly the **autonomy** of the Rotary Club, which says... "Each individual club has absolute autonomy in the selection of such community service activities as appeal to it and as are suited to its community and RI should never prescribe nor proscribe any community service activity for any club."

"Many things have changed since 1923....the pace has also changed, and we have to accept this reality,

but not the purpose or the principles (of the **1923 Statement on Community Service**)....the Rotary world ...will not and cannot afford to be flexible on matter of principles, With the clear sign that we will uphold the principles of Rotary's philosophy, the 2010 Council on Legislation has passed Resolution Number 10 – 182 by a large margin of 444 against 66, proposed by the Rotary Club of Kushiro, Hokkaido, stating that the first principle of the **1923 Statement on Community Service** is still very relevant for Rotarians today as ever. There, it must be kept **permanently** as the philosophy that guides Rotarians' activities, and request the Board to using this principle as a definition of the philosophy of service....**Service Above Self** which is based on the practical ethical principle that...**They Profit Most Who Serve Best!**"

Building Communities can "after all, (be) a simple ordinary thing ...like participating in efforts aimed at solving the problems confronting their communities and our world community today... of quiet men and women building communities and doing gigantic things....it s seeing those quiet men and women engaged in tremendous important projects without fanfare or flourish....who drive handicapped people, and spend time with mentally handicapped people....who seek nothing in return for their deeds.."

Bridging Continents will "be a task, a promise that Rotary has pledged that it is simply. Not enough to dream of a better and safer World. It has to be built, and I think Rotary is doing just that by developing our interest and genuine desire to continue, to encourage, promote and , foster the advancement of international understanding goodwill and search for peace and harmony among people of all nations through the many excellent programmes of the Rotary Foundation and your own initiative on many commendable WCS projects you are undertaking. By bridging continents we have to understand that peace will have to grow from grassroots and never from the top. It has to be a pyramid starting from down below...if we can build a firm foundation for peace it has to start from us as an individual and from where we stand now."

"the theme of my talk....we would not be in Rotary if someone, somewhere and somehow, had not inspired us to be a part of a compassionate world, to dream of goodwill, to project understanding, and

to work toward the bringing of peaceful relations among peoples of the earth....I feel that we are very fortunate indeed to be blessed generously with resources and opportunity. We have, therefore, the responsibility to share with those who have little or none. And in sharing, reach out a hand when they fall, heal them when they are sick, and provide opportunity to make them self-sufficient so they will be equal in fact and not just in theory. This is our dream to make a reality out of Rotary. This is our effort to make Rotary become...**Bigger, Better and Bolder!**"

R.I. News

By PDG Dr. Paul Lee

Highlights of November meeting of RI Board

November 2010 Board Meeting Highlights

The second meeting of the 2010-11 RI Board of Directors was held on 30 October-6 November 2010, in Evanston, Illinois, USA. At this meeting the Board reviewed reports from 14 committees and recorded 84 decisions.

Club and District Matters

The Board established three new pilot projects aimed at boosting membership in RI. They are: an associate member pilot project that will allow potential members to become associated and acquainted with a Rotary club, its members, programs, and projects for a certain length of time before becoming a full member; a corporate member pilot project that will allow a corporation or company in a club's area to become a member of the club; and an innovative and flexible Rotary club pilot project that will allow clubs to self-determine their operations to better accommodate their membership and community needs. These pilot projects will operate from 1 July 2011 through 30 June 2014. The Board also established a satellite club pilot project that will allow a Rotary club to conduct multiple club meetings a week, each meeting taking place at a different location, on a different day, and/or at a different time.

The Board took action to balance district membership by encouraging large districts to split into two or three new districts and by agreeing to merge smaller districts that do not meet minimum size requirements by specific dates set by the Board, with the ultimate goal of there being no district with fewer than 33 clubs or 1,200 members or more than 100 clubs and 4,000 members. The Board encouraged district leaders to work with the RI directors and

Rotary coordinators to meet this redistricting objective.

Joint district conferences may now be scheduled without prior Board approval. The restriction against scheduling district conferences within eight days of an international convention was removed. Conference must not occur at the same time as the international convention, however.

RI Administration and Finances

Discussing the RI Strategic Plan, the Board agreed to review at its January 2011 meeting legislation for possible submission to the 2013 Council that would amend long-standing club meeting and membership qualification requirements. It agreed to transform RI programs to a “resource and support” model aimed at better helping clubs and districts in their service projects. In an effort to enhance awareness of RI’s public image, the Board agreed to increase annual funding for district public relations grants from US\$2 million to \$4 million, beginning in 2011-12. The Board amended RI’s Strategic Plan by replacing the vision statement with a “core essence” statement as follows:

Core Essence: A worldwide network of inspired individuals who translate their passions into relevant social causes to change lives in communities.

The Board clarified that Rotary coordinators are vital in achieving the goals and objectives of the RI Strategic Plan for 2010-13; that they are resource persons for the district governors, not supervisors or managers for the clubs and districts in their regions; and that they are to support the work of the governors and obtain approval of the governors before working with clubs in their respective districts. Rotary coordinators have the same rank and status as the regional Rotary Foundation coordinators and the two should work cooperatively on an equal basis.

The Board, subject to the review and recommendation by the Audit Committee at its November meeting, accepted the audited statements and report on RI’s financial results for 2009-10. The results will be published in the annual report.

RI Programs, Communications, and Awards

The Board received a progress report on Rotary’s US\$200 Million Challenge and was advised that as of 22 October, US\$149,222,000 had been raised.

The Board agreed to expand the recent Council on Legislation decision that allowed North American

Rotarians to choose between a digital or print version of The Rotarian magazine to also include all international subscribers of the magazine. The Board further requested the general secretary to immediately process requests from qualified Rotarians for joint subscriptions to the magazine (therefore rescinding its June 2010 decision that requested this be done by 1 July 2011).

New Guidelines for Rotarian Action Groups were approved to clarify their purpose, governance, administration, use of the Rotary Marks, fundraising, and dues collection.

The Board agreed to appoint a Youth Exchange Committee to serve through 30 June 2011.

In a cost cutting measure, the Board discontinued holding the annual international RYLA event at the international convention, effective 30 June 2011.

In an effort to provide opportunities for young people in developing countries to participate in Youth Exchange, the Board encourages those districts participating only in outbound exchanges to become certified, and for certified districts to consider providing financial assistance to students from developing countries, when possible, to offset the expenses of the exchange to the students’ parents or guardians. In discussing student travel insurance issues, the Board agreed to encourage districts to establish and participate in a voluntary global student travel insurance program at no cost to RI.

The Board agreed to recognize the Italian Culture Worldwide Rotarian Fellowship.

The Board selected 132 recipients for the 2010-11 Service Above Self award, which recognizes exemplary humanitarian service provided on a continual basis by Rotarians who might otherwise go unrecognized. The names of the recipients will be announced at the end of the Rotary year.

To increase Rotary’s visibility and enhance its public image, the Board agreed to budget up to US\$1 million in 2011-12 for targeted public relations efforts.

International Meetings

The Board accepted the proposal from districts 3330, 3340, 3350, and 3360, to host the RI convention on 6-9 May 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Source: Rotary International

JANUARY IS, INDEED, ROTARY 'AWARENESS' MONTH....

January 2nd, 2011 ...(a day to remember!) PDG Dato Jimmy Lim hosted a 'The Rotary Foundation' Turkey -Lunch for the 'End Polio Walk' participants from RI Districts 3300 & 3310 at the Holiday Villa, Jalan Ampang. Of course, our PP Robin Tay was one of the participants who walked from Kuala Lumpur to Singapore.... *This is also to make ourselves 'aware' that PP Robin Tay can share his experiences with us.*

It was, indeed, an interesting but eventful memorable day for me! It was the day that brought home to forefront ***the meaning of Rotary, Rotary's Friendship and Fellowship and 'Family of Rotary' which I want my Rotary friends to be aware of!*** I was enjoying the company of eminent Rotary Leaders, our DG Lim Kok Beng, PDG Dr Joe Rajendran, DGN Mansoor Saat and Ann Emzita and PP Dr Joy Varughese.

It was an involved and interesting 'Rotary discussion' – about Clubs etc. and how we could improve further! Time was coming on to 6pm . We decided to call it a day! We walked down the steps, passed the Swimming Pool and to the 6th Floor. Very distinctly I remember DG KB putting his arm around me and telling me, "VG, Sorry for not involving you more in Rotary work in the past months. I wanted you to get better in health. I appreciate your contributions towards 'DG's Newsletter, District Resource Centre and your own Rotary Club of Pudu. Next week, if you can, I'll want you to accompany me to Taiping – Mid Term Review"

A few more steps I took.....and that's all!

When I regained my consciousness I looked at my dear Rotary leaders faces. Shock, disbelief, concern and care written all over their faces! There was PP Dr Joy on phone to my wife Thavam; PDG Dr Joe feeling my pulse and saying "VG you will be alright. We will arrange to take you to IJN." DGN Mansoor and Emzita were both bent over me saying, "How could this happen to VG? Our prayers for him." DG Kok Beng - I can never forget that concerned look on his face but in a comforting and reassuring manner saying, "We are here for you VG! Don't worry, VG!"

That 'sRotary's Friendship and Fellowship and 'Family of Rotary' all put together!

To IJN by Ambulance ...and there my wife Thavam ,my daughter Kavi and my cousin Dr Kumar were waiting. As my medical records were at the University Hospital, IJN conferred with PDG Dr Joe, my immediate family and my 'Family of Rotary' members that I should be treated at the University Hospital.

So another Ambulance driveto University Hospital.

It was now past 12 midnightand I was in the 'Emergency Ward'!

Who were the ardent and concerned visitors together with my immediate family?

It was PP Ken Ong made his appearance first. Yes... I had not expected that! He held my hand with very comforting words. Literally my heart beat increased and the alarm went!

When PP Ken Ong left, there came PP Sim Bee. As PP Sim Bee stood holding my hand with his encouraging words, the alarm went off.....Hence, they left.

But, it was the comradeship and love and care for a fellow Rotarian that was revealed....

Sim Bee and Ken Ong, I do not how managed to visit me where only medical staff and immediate family were allowed!!

My Fellow Pudu Rotarians as well other fellow Rotarians from the District continued sending in heart warming 'SMS's" for speedy recovery. My wife Thavam was inundated with phone calls conveying words of encouragement and blessings. Many Rotarians wanted to visit me, but strict visiting hours was hampering factor. I was discharged on Tues. 4th January 2011.....but with a series of follow-up medical appointments!!

As soon as I was discharged my first visitor at my home was VP Heng – a devoted and 'always available Rotarian'. And of course our PDG Paul with Ann Lilian were the latest of visitors. The way they conducted the prayers for me and my family was indeed touching! This has left an indelible mark of the value of Rotary Friendship and Fellowship my family!

See the photo.....a very delighted Thavam and me,,,,,,with my Pudu Rotarians with their families visiting us on Sunday 9th January 2011 led by PP Sim Bee.



A RECOVERING PP VG WITH ANN THAVAN AND RC PUDU'S 'ROTARY FAMILY 9TH JANUARY 2011

Am I, then, thankful and proud to be a Rotarian? Positively yes.! Whilst January is Rotary's Awareness month, please my Rotary friends, consider 'Rotary Awareness' as importantevery month and every year.....ALWAYS!