



THE SPOKE



AN E-BULLETIN OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF JOHOR BAHRU
(District 3310 of Rotary International, Chartered on 27 June 1952)

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Club Assembly Week



TODAY 'S PROGRAMME:
Mr. Vincent Chow on *“ Wild Fruits of Johor ”*
LAST WEEK:
Master Sen Zen on *“The Art of Feng Shui”*

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Rtn Dr. Vishwadeep
Rtn Francis Gopal
Rtn Chua Tze Wei

Dear Rotarians,

This week is Club Assembly and I am happy that at least 11 members have registered. It would have been nice if more members had signed up since it is being held in Johor Bahru.

As you all know, we had submitted 8 of our projects to be considered for District Awards. PP Leong Chee Woh, Rtn. Dr Vishwadeep, PP Tan Beng Sooi and PP Ooi Kao Yang had put in a lot of effort to prepare the reports. We hope that our efforts are recognized.

We will also have good fellowship with Rotarians from other clubs and also use this opportunity to network and explore possibilities for cooperation for projects for next year.

The Board at the last meeting unanimously nominated VP Ng Swee Poh for the 4 Avenues of Service Award. VP Swee Poh had been a very active Rotarians since induction and he has given a lot of his time for the Dialysis Centre. His involvement in most of our activities is a known fact.

Thank you and Regards

Anga

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Last Week's Talk : Master Sen Zen on *“The Art of Feng Shui”*

A state of “Zen” wasn’t exactly the order of the day, but nonetheless, Rotarians were enlightened on how *feng shui* plays a part in our daily personal and professional lives and it can even manifest itself in art as in the case of our guest speaker Master Sen Zen who was accompanied by his two lovely colleagues, Miss Shanice Cho and Miss Adeline Chua.

Born in Johore, Master Sen Zen began painting at the tender age of eight. A primarily self-taught artist, Master Sen Zen sold his first painting at the age of thirteen. He then continued studying fine art at the Hong Kong Academy of Art, Kansas University and also the San Francisco Academy of Art.

Master Sen Zen also goes by his artist name of Lunzen. Lunzen’s paintings are basically meditations on harmony-visually, musically, spiritually and interpersonally. His graceful, opulently colored works although modern in style, reflects his Oriental heritage in their lush color palette and serenely centered images.

Lunzen has received and accumulated numerous national and international awards since 1983. His works can be found on display in permanent collections of international art collectors, museums, galleries and corporations. Lunzen has also done group and solo exhibitions throughout Asia, Europe, Canada and the United States and his works have also been published extensively in art periodicals.



Despite being an American green card holder and living in the US for 15 years, Lunzen is still a very much a Malaysian at heart and has returned home to Malaysia to create awareness of the importance to have art museums and galleries to showcase young and local artistic talents as well as help develop a more vibrant local art scene in Malaysia. As the Founder and Chairman of Lunzen Museum of Art



Foundation, a non-profit organization which was set up in 2002 and is dedicated to promote and preserve all forms of art, Lunzen aims to nurture artistic talents as well as provide an avenue for children to express themselves through art. The foundation regularly organizes art competitions to help create awareness and encourage emerging new talents as well.

They also work closely with other charity organizations on projects as well as art charity exhibitions, seminars, workshops and art classes. With a personal collection of around 10,000 pieces, Lunzen also has plans of opening art galleries and museums throughout Malaysia in hopes of elevating the art industry in Malaysia and also to utilize art as a medium to bring people closer together as well as a means to promote peace and harmony.

Apart from his love of art, Lunzen also imparts his feng shui knowledge through his consultancy services to both businesses and individuals by interpreting their personal signatures and also company logos to ensure growth, prosperity, health and wealth. After the regular meet, a number of Rotarians managed to get their signatures analyzed to see if the signatures that



they have been using all this while to sign cheques and documents would bring them further wealth, prosperity and good luck. It was a most lighthearted moment to learn that while some had strong and good signature, others displayed signs of a confused and indecisive person. All in all, it was a rather amusing few minutes which turned out to be quite a “profitable” one as well as those who stayed on to learn about their signatures were generous enough to contribute to the tikkie bottle which yielded a total of RM105. All of which will be donated to the Spastics Association. Let’s hope and do what we can to ensure that the younger generation of Malaysians will learn to explore and appreciate art in all it’s beauty and power and that more facilities for art will emerge in time to come for the benefit of everyone.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance: This week's attendance was 66.67%. Last week's was 70.59%

15 to 18 April 2010 20th D3310 District Assembly Zon Regency Hotel: Please try to attend, especially incoming Board members and Committee Chairs! New members and members who have not attended a District Assembly before are also encouraged to attend. Please contact PE Dr. Siva for details and registration forms.

Important Dates to note:

Saturday 19 June 2010:
Installation Dinner for PE Dr. Siva at Zon Regency Hotel

Dear Interact Club President, Teacher Advisor and Rotarian Advisor

I have already fax and sent out invitation letter together with Jabatan Pelajaran Johor approval letter to all the schools.

Career Guidance Talk: Medical and Hospital Administration at Puteri Hospital on Saturday, 17th April 2010 (Time: 2.00pm to 6.00pm)

Programme Coordinator: PP Mr Shanmugam Suppiah (Surgeon)

We Rotary Club of Johor Bahru and Puteri Specialist Hospital would like to invite Interactors to the career guidance talk.

Topics shall include GP, Specialist e.g Surgeon, Orthopedics, ENT, O&G and Dental), Nutritionist, Pharmacist, Radiologist, Nurse etc.

The talk will be presented by the respective specialist. If time allowed there will be a short tour in the hospital to view the respective departments.

We believe this project will, in a small way, compliment the effort of MOE and the school.

Yours In Rotary,
Rtn Elendran S

We must seek out skilled and determined men and women of character. We must do what is right, even when it is inconvenient. And we must always, always, put Service Above Self.

PE Siva's Installation Dinner :-

Please note that Installation Dinner Tickets are priced at :

RM 850 (ONE TABLE)
RM 450 (HALF TABLE)
RM 100 (PER TICKET)



**PP Chua Kean Num
Wedding Anniversary
15th April
PP Leslie Struys**



From the treasurer: TICKKIE BOTTLE:

COLLECTON ON 06th Apr 2010 :

Tikkie Bottle : RM 32
 Happy Fund : RM
 Totalling : RM 2,831 (Tikkie Bottle)
 : RM 2,000 (Happy Fund)
 : SGD 7.00

QUOTE: It is our daily actions and our daily decisions that determine the course of Rotary for all of us.

THE FUTURE OF ROTARY IS IN YOUR HANDS

-RI PRESIDENT JOHN KERRY

Absent Rotarians On 06th Apr 2010

1. PP Dato Francis Ng (Excused)
2. PP Dato Dr. Singaraveloo (Excused)
3. PP Chang Teck Mark (Excused)
4. PP Dr. K.N Singh (Excused)
5. PP Dato Dr. Teoh Beng Hoe (Excused)
6. PP Roland Choong (Excused)
7. PP Jit Sehgal (Excused)
8. PP Tony Ong
9. PP Mohd. Noh Ibrahim
10. PP Yeo Ann Kiat
11. PP Dr. S. Shanmugam
12. Rtn. Tan Chee Seng
13. PP Chua Kean Num
14. PE Dr. Sivamoorthy
15. Rt. Lee Soo Tong
16. Rtn. Chin Kuie Too
17. Rtn. Dato' Teo Shiok Foo
18. Rtn. Dr. Lee Kim Tiong
19. Rtn. Liang The Hai
20. Rtn. Alan Cheng
21. PP Dr. Ho Loon Shin
22. Rtn. Chua Tze-Wei
23. Rtn. Chandra Segeran
24. Rtn. Lee Chin Leong

FROM THE ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN PP FRANCIS LIP :- AS AT 06th April 2010

Membership	58
Excused	7
Effective	51
Present	34
Percentage	66.67%

MEMBERS CELEBRATE

APRIL		Wedding	Induction
Name	Birthday	Anniversary	Anniversary
Mohd Noh	2		
K N Singh	23		2
Nari Gidwani			2
Tan Beng Sooi			2
Chua Kean Num		15	
Leslie Struys		15	
Lim Kay Hua			19
Vishwadeep Sandhu	3		
Teoh Cheng			25
Cheong Nai	28		28



Kids passionate about raising pennies to fight polio

By Peter Schmidtke

Rotary International News -- 5 April 2010

With the help of friends, 11-year-old Tyler Dorsey is collecting thousands of pennies to help in Rotary's effort to eradicate polio.

After Tyler heard about a man in Alabama, USA, who had cashed in 1.3 million pennies in 2005 for \$13,000 in paper bills, he set out to surpass that feat and give the money to PolioPlus.

Though the children have not reached the million-penny mark yet, Tyler, Aida Alonso, Lindsey Hutchinson, and Connor Smith presented a check in February for \$1,008.04 to Shane Burr, governor of District 6910 (Georgia), and Gary Moore, district PolioPlus subcommittee chair. They will turn another check over to the district after 30 June and plan on continuing to raise funds for polio eradication after that.



Tyler Dorsey (right), chair of the Cleveland Better Home Town Junior Board, meets with secretary Lindsey Hutchinson (left) and treasurer Aida Alonso. *Photo courtesy of Maria Jurado-Flynn*

The foursome started collecting pennies in July in memory of Wilford Ash, a local educator who had contracted polio as a child. The friends, members of the Better Home Town Junior Board in Cleveland, Georgia, also plan on selling jigsaw puzzles with historic scenes of Cleveland and donating a portion of the proceeds to PolioPlus.

"I've just always wanted to help people," says Tyler, who said he is excited the pennies are helping more than 1,000 children. It costs as little as 60 cents to protect a child against polio.

"Just thinking about people not being able to walk is a very sad situation," says Aida.

To collect the pennies, the children distributed 20 jars and three plastic tubs among downtown businesses. The White County Fire Department donated a 5-gallon bucket of pennies, and White County Rotarians made contributions and picked up some of the containers.

Tyler learned about Rotary through Maria Jurado-Flynn, president of the Rotary Club of White County and executive director of Cleveland Better Home Town. Tyler's father, a police officer, had introduced him to Jurado-Flynn after Tyler expressed an interest in historic preservation. In addition to revitalizing downtown, Cleveland Better Home Town organizes community events, so Jurado-Flynn asked Tyler, then age nine, to chair an autumn festival. He later received permission to create his own junior board and attended several Rotary club meetings.

On his own initiative, Tyler hosted a food drive last year that netted two truckloads of items and \$1,800, including donations from Rotarians.

"He's really fallen in love with what Rotary does, and I really think it's helped shape who he is becoming," says Jurado-Flynn. "It's going to shape what these kids do for the rest of their lives."



Former scholar prosecutes war crimes at The Hague

By Joseph Derr

Rotary International News -- 16 March 2010

Rotary experiences twice helped Ryan Carrier discover new cultures and enrich his education in a journey that led him to become a war crimes prosecutor for the United Nations.

Since 2008, Carrier, 38, has worked as a legal officer for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia in The Hague. This ad hoc UN tribunal deals with crimes against humanity and war crimes that happened in that region after 1991.

Carrier is currently prosecuting three Croatian army generals for crimes alleged to have been committed during Operation Storm in August 1995. Then, more than 100,000 ethnic Serbs were driven out of Croatia in what Carrier describes as the largest case of ethnic cleansing during the Balkan wars.



Ryan Carrier at The Hague Photo courtesy of Ryan Carrier

“Ethnic cleansing is not limited to entering a town and killing everyone; it also encompasses illegal acts whereby someone attempts to reconfigure the demographics of a certain area, driving out certain ethnicities in order to ‘cleanse’ the area,” says Carrier, originally from White Rock, British Columbia, Canada.

“War crimes often affect hundreds of thousands of people. [The crimes] are incredibly serious and very upsetting, but you have to be able to distance yourself a little bit. At the end of the day, you have to do what is right.”

Carrier’s first Rotary experience was in 1989, when the Rotary Club of White Rock selected him as a Rotary Youth Exchange student. He lived for a year in Vetlanda, Sweden, where he attended high school, became fluent in Swedish, and grew close to his host family, a bond that continues to this day.

In 1996, Carrier studied criminology at the University of Cape Town in South Africa as a Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholar, sponsored by the Rotary Club of White Rock-Peace Arch. He had the opportunity to witness a society that was changing quickly, after decades of apartheid.

“I was working with a lot of former African National Congress members in black townships and advising on policing issues with my professor, so I kind of lived between these two divergent worlds co-existing in South Africa at the time,” Carrier says. “It taught me how important it is to adapt and try to appreciate peoples’ perspectives before pushing your own agenda or viewpoint.”

Deciding that a legal career would be the best way for him to make an impact on the world, Carrier went on to earn a law degree at Cambridge University. He worked as a prosecutor, handling criminal cases emanating from one of Toronto’s most crime-ridden neighborhoods before landing the job at the UN. His Rotary experiences significantly shaped his career and outlook on life, he says.

“You can go on a trip somewhere, but that’s not the same thing as living in a place and getting to know the people, seeing their perspectives, and gaining their trust and really being welcomed in a deeper way,” Carrier explains. “It gave me a lot more confidence to do something bigger with my life. If I hadn’t had both of those helping hands along the way from Rotary – the exchange program and the Ambassadorial Scholarship – I wouldn’t have had the opportunities that I have now.”

Setting the pace for sustainable peace in Uganda

By Dan Nixon

Rotary International News -- 6 January 2010

Robert Opira of Uganda is a master of understatement when he calls his first job out of college "very challenging work." As a psychological counselor and project manager for World Vision, he helped rehabilitate and resettle more than 12,000 former child soldiers in northern Uganda from 2002 to 2005.

"The Lord's Resistance Army had abducted and recruited an estimated 36,000 children, the youngest being seven years old," says Opira, a member of the Rotary Club of Gulu and former Rotary Peace Fellow. "It was this kind of work that motivated me to apply for the Rotary Peace Fellowship. I thought maybe I would do something to help prevent war, rather than addressing the consequences."

While a 2005-07 peace fellow at the University of Queensland in Australia, Opira got the idea for creating a conflict resolution center in his homeland. "I realized that starting the center would enable me to better utilize the knowledge and skills acquired from the fellowship," he says.

Opira shared his vision with another Ugandan peace fellow (2004-06) at the Queensland Rotary Center, Godfrey Mukalazi. Following their graduation, the pair founded the Great Lakes Center for Conflict Resolution in Gulu, Uganda. GLACCR is a nongovernmental organization working to address conflict and security challenges in the five-country Great Lakes region, where more than five million people have died since the mid-1990s in conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Uganda alone.

Working with 26 NGOs and district government leaders, GLACCR is building conflict sensitivity training into development projects in northern Uganda. Opira says the effort, funded by a US\$100,000 grant from USAID, will help preserve peace in area communities by focusing on the root causes and consequences of conflict.

GLACCR also provides expertise in peace-building and conflict resolution to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, World Vision, Self-Help Uganda, and other NGOs active in Uganda. In addition, it is designing a conflict early warning system that will link global information technologies with local social networks to help prevent conflict.

Opira is also director of St. Peter's Junior School, which he founded in 2008 with the support of Rotarians in Australia, Japan, and the United States. Designed to serve mainly children of families affected by conflict and HIV/AIDS, the school has established a nursery and aims to add one grade each year.

Opira says that "the support from Rotarians throughout the world" for his peace fellowship led him to join Rotary that same year. "I wanted to remain in the Rotary family. I realized that through this great family I could better serve my community."



Rotarian and former peace fellow Robert Opira (second from left) takes part in the Gulu Walk 2009, a peace-building campaign focusing on the plight of war-affected children in northern Uganda. *Photo courtesy of Robert Opira.*

Last Words

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

Happiness in this world, when it comes, comes incidentally. Make it the object of pursuit, and it leads us a wild-goose chase, and is never attained.

Nathaniel Hawthorne

1804-1864, American Novelist, Short Story Writer

Happiness is a wine of the rarest vintage, and seems insipid to a vulgar taste.

Logan Pearsall Smith

1865-1946, Anglo-American Essayist, Aphorist

We are all manufacturers. Making good, making trouble, or making excuses.

H. V. Adolt

You don't hear things that are bad about your company unless you ask. It is easy to hear good tidings, but you have to scratch to get the bad news.

Thomas J. Watson

187-1956, American Businessman, Founder of IBM

Humor

Making a bet at a bar

Two guys were in a bar, and they were both watching the television when the news came on. It showed a guy on a bridge who was about to jump, obviously suicidal. "I'll bet you \$10 he'll jump," said the first guy. "Bet you \$10 he won't," said the second guy.

Then, the guy on the television closed his eyes and threw himself off the bridge. The second guy hands the first guy the money.

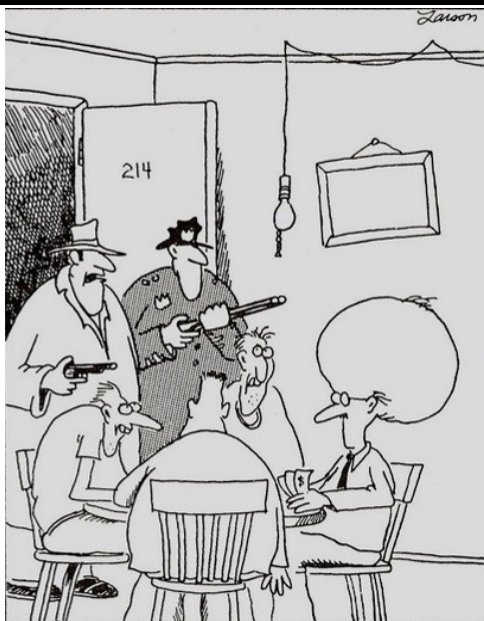
"I can't take your money," said the first guy. "I cheated you. The same story was on the five o'clock news." "No, no. Take it," said the second guy. "I saw the five o'clock news too. I just didn't think the guy was dumb enough to jump again!"

I have a magical dancing duck

A circus owner walked into a bar to see everyone crowded about a table watching a little show. On the table was an upside down pot and a duck tap dancing on it. The circus owner was so impressed that he offered to buy the duck from its owner. After some wheeling and dealing, they settled for \$10,000 for the duck and the pot.

Three days later the circus owner runs back to the bar in anger, "Your duck is a ripoff! I put him on the pot before a whole audience, and he didn't dance a single step!"

"So?" asked the ducks former owner, "did you remember to light the candle under the pot?"



"Freezel . . . Okay, now . . . Who's the brains of this outfit?"