



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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END POLIO NOW



Today's Programme: Walk to End Polio by PP Leong Chee Woh

Last Week : Ms Fung Lee Jean on Laughter Hohohaha

Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 54, 80730 Johor Bahru,
Johor Darul Takzim, Malaysia

Weekly Meetings:
The Zon Regency Hotel, Johor Bahru,
Tuesdays at 5:15pm
Contact Tel:
+607 222 2433
(Rotary House)

E-Mail:
execsec@rcjb.org.my

My Fellow Rotarians

The December issue of The Rotarian Projects on interesting article on Queen Noor, the widow of King Hussein of Jordan. Queen Noor has devoted her energies to a wide spectrum of humanitarian efforts, in Jordan and the Arab world. She has focused on education, sustainable economic development and human rights initiatives. As chairperson of Noor Al Hussein Foundation, she pioneer programs for poverty, women's empowerment, micro finance, health and environment conservation.

On going through the interview with Queen Noor by The Rotarian, I am more convinced that we should make all possible efforts to bring in "Women of Substance" to the club before my terms end in June 2011. Just like Queen Noor carries on her work for peace, justice and other noble causes, we should allow lady members to venture into areas of service which benefits the womenfolk.

In conclusion to quote Queen Noor *"when we are tempted to feel sorry for ourselves, there's ALWAYS something we can do for someone else in NEED"*

Prosperous Chinese New Year greetings and Kong Hee Fatt Choy to all member

Building Communities and Bridging Continents

Yours in Rotary.

DR. S. SIVAMOORTHY

PRESIDENT 2010/2011

EDITORS	
PP Tan Beng Sooi	
Rtn Ranjeet Bhullar	
Exec Sec Adilin Arifin	

IN THIS ISSUE	PAGE
LAST WEEK'S TALK	2
CLUB MATTERS	3
FROM THE INTERNET	4
MEMBERSHIP	5
A NEW APPROACH	6
ROTARY'S GUIDING NEW PRINCIPLES	8



LAST WEEK'S TALK



Rtn Francis Gopal was the acting President for last week's meeting as President Sivamoorthy was unable to chair the meeting due to work commitment.

Pix above shown Ms Fung Lee Jean receiving a small token of a gift from the acting President for her exciting talk about Laughter Hohohaha. Right picture above is a picture taken in a Be-friender's event from her album.

Below is the Programs for the month of February. Please kindly take note.

1 February	8 February	15 February	22 February
3 Country Round Up	Photography	Birthday of Prophet Muhammad	Legoland
PP Ooi Kao Yang	Mr John Lee	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	Mr Siegfried (to be confirmed)

From the treasurer: TICKKIE BOTTLE:

COLLECTION ON 18 JANUARY 2011

Tikkie Bottle : RM176

Happy Fund : - Nil -

Totaling : RM2115.00 (Tikkie Bottle)

QUOTE: For us to succeed, all we need to do is to focus our best efforts on doing what Rotarians are passionate about and what Rotarians are the best in the world at doing, which is *Building Communities – Bridging Continents*

*RI President 2010/2011
Ray Klingensmith*

**FROM THE ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN PP FRANCIS LIP :-
AS AT 18 JANUARY 2011**

Membership	59
Excused	5
Effective	54
Present	40
Percentage	74.07%

MEMBERS CELEBRATE

JANUARY	Birthday	Wedding Anniversary	Induction Anniversary
Chin Kuie Too		6	
Mike Parry	15		
Nari Gidwani	17		
K N Singh		19	
Angamuthu		22	
Koh Jit Huat	22		
Lim Hock Teck			28
Ng Yew Mun			28
Ranjeet Bhullar	26		
Jason Tan	29		1

Absent Rotarians On 18 January 2011

1. PP Chang Teck Mark (Excused)
2. PP Dato Francis Ng (Excused)
3. PP Dr. K.N Singh (Excused)
4. PP Dato Singaraveloo (Excused)
5. PP Jit Sehgal (Excused)
6. PP Lim Kay Hua
7. PDG Lim Hock Teck
8. PP Dato Mokkal Singh
9. PP Dato Francis Ng
10. PP Nari Gidwani
11. PP Yeo Ann Kiat
12. PP Kuthubul Zaman Bukhari
13. PP S Shanmugam
14. PP Jason Tan Boon Yew
15. PP Mok Tai Dwan
16. President S Sivamoorthy
17. Rtn Koh Jit Huat
18. Rtn Richie Chiam
19. Rtn Kelvin Chua
20. Rtn Chua Tze Wei
21. Rtn Vincent Chia Choon Hwa

Attending weekly club meetings allows members to enjoy their club's fellowship, enrich their professional and personal knowledge, and meet other business leaders in their community.

From the Internet: Timeshare

Yahoo Finance, 23 January 2011

When Giveaway trips come with extra baggage

It was one of those messages left on our voice mail that I would usually ignore. But I couldn't quite: "This is not a sales call. You have entered a drawing and been selected to win one of three prizes. This is time-sensitive. Please call back and claim your prize."

Against my better judgment, I called the toll-free number. A guy named Dan explained it to me. My husband had filled out a form to win a car. We were guaranteed to win a Ford Explorer, a television or a vacation. If we showed up at a hotel not far from our house later that week, we could claim our prize.

At that point, my husband and I agreed that we were not going to spend a Saturday afternoon listening to someone try to persuade us to buy something we couldn't afford. But my curiosity was piqued. Was it ever worth it to attend these vacation club/timeshare pitches for a free trip or tickets to a theme park? Are they scams or legitimate?

First, what is a vacation club? It sounded a lot like a timeshare. According to the Federal Trade Commission, there is a difference. With a timeshare, you buy a specific unit at a specific time every year, and you can trade or sell it. With a vacation club or vacation interval option, a developer owns the resort, and each unit or condominium is divided into time intervals.

In both timeshares and vacation clubs, there is often an additional annual maintenance fee.

Lisa Ann Schreier, who runs Timeshare Insights, a consumer consulting Web site for timeshare owners, said there were many legitimate timeshare and vacation clubs, but consumers should be skeptical about the giveaways being offered to hear a pitch.

There are no federal laws governing timeshare presentations, said Lois C. Greisman, associate director of the division of marketing practices for the Federal Trade Commission, although individual states may have their own regulations. At times, he said, the presentation felt like a religious revival. A representative spoke to him and his wife in one part of a large room and "every time one or another couple would sign a contract, a guy with a microphone would announce it and everyone would applaud. Eventually I found myself applauding because I felt guilty if I didn't."

At one point, he became convinced that they should buy a timeshare, even though they never intended to. His wife talked him out of it. "Then my wife was convinced, and I had to talk her out of it," Mr. Ginzberg said. The presentation stretched to two and half hours, longer than the hour they had been promised.

When he got home, Mr. Ginzberg said, he found a similar unit with the same company on eBay at one-third the price he was being offered. Even so, he has not bought a timeshare.

Andy LaPointe of Mancelona, Mich., used to sell timeshares for a Northern Michigan resort. He still owns a timeshare there, and said he believed he offered a good product at a good price.

He estimated that at least "75 percent of people who showed up just wanted the freebies," like the golf and skiing that was offered, but he nonetheless managed to sell one to three units on average every week.

Mr. LaPointe said he did not mind if people decided not to buy, but felt "they should hold up their end of the deal -- listen with an open mind." And they should not try to walk off in the middle, as some of his customers did.

If you are tempted to take the vacation or collect the prize that goes with attending a timeshare presentation, do your homework. If it is a company that has a history of being deceptive, most likely others have written about it on the Web.

And negotiate. Sally Kane, a lawyer who lives in Pittsburgh, had a great experience with a timeshare company-sponsored trip to Disney World for her family, but she spent a lot of time making sure she got what she wanted.

Ms. Kane also requested everything in writing before agreeing. "At first they wouldn't, but I said we wouldn't go then. They sent it to me and I found discrepancies in what they promised and what was in writing, which I made them fix."

Like Ms. Kane, some people have had great experiences. But do your research, and just as important, know yourself. If you succumb to impulsive buys or, like me, find it hard to say no, stay away. A discounted vacation isn't much of a deal if you end up spending thousands of dollars you never intended to.

A NEW APPROACH: HOW TO ATTRACT YOUNG

Katie Ischkin, president and founder of the Rotary Club of South Metro Minneapolis Evenings, Minnesota, USA, talks about attracting younger members to Rotary.

Katie Ischkin, president and founder of the Rotary Club of South Metro Minneapolis Evenings, Minnesota, USA, believes in a new approach to Rotary.

Her Rotary club, chartered in June, has already grown to 25 members, including 12 new Rotarians who were recruited in a three-month period. The club has signed up for its first Matching Grant and international service project and has participated in more than 10 community service or hands-on volunteer efforts.

Ischkin shared her ideas on how to attract young professionals to Rotary during the International Assembly, an annual training event in San Diego, California. As a "proud, young, female Rotarian," she is among only 2 percent of club members worldwide under the age of 30, and only 11 percent under 40.

"We need to focus on generating interest in young people for the future success of Rotary," she said.

"We are faced today with the need to grow not just for the sake of numbers but to create strong, young, global leaders who are going to help continue the success of the Rotary organization."

Ischkin advocates a new outlook on membership and a different approach to club structure. As a change management consultant, she said she understands people's fear of change. But she stressed that her approach doesn't mean altering the core pieces of the organization or losing what Rotarians hold dear.

"What does change are what I call surface-level elements," she said. "The pieces that individual clubs have the power to shift and redesign, such as meeting times and locations, program structures, club member involvement, and committee formats."

Manage expectations

Ischkin's club meets in the evening and lowers costs by not having meals. And it doesn't hold a traditional meeting every week: The third meeting of the month is a happy hour/networking event at different locations in the city, and the fourth meeting is a hands-on volunteering opportunity.

Ischkin added that it's important to understand the mindset of the new generation and manage expectations accordingly. Younger people are "always on the go and truly connected," she explained, whether it's through social networking, text messaging, or other means. They face a lot of pressure to be involved in multiple endeavors and to balance work and personal life. As a result, they may be "on call" with their careers, but they are no less dedicated to service.

"When you're trying to recruit younger members or even sponsor and start a New Generations Rotary club, take time with your club and committee to outline what your expectations are and whether they will align with the younger generation you are trying to attract and work with," she said. "Not every Rotary club can quickly shift gears to attract younger members; it takes time and baby steps."

But for many clubs, she said, "all it takes is opening up your minds and starting to think differently about the future of your club's membership."



ROTARY'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Throughout Rotary's history, several basic principles have been developed to guide Rotarians in achieving the ideal of service and high ethical standards.

Object of Rotary

First formulated in 1910 and adapted through the years as Rotary's mission expanded, the Object of Rotary provides a succinct definition of the organization's purpose as well as the club member's responsibilities.

The Object of Rotary is to encourage and foster the ideal of service as a basis of worthy enterprise and, in particular, to encourage and foster:

FIRST The development of acquaintance as an opportunity for service;

SECOND High ethical standards in business and professions; the recognition of the worthiness of all useful occupations; and the dignifying of each Rotarian's occupation as an opportunity to serve society;

THIRD The application of the ideal of service in each Rotarian's personal, business, and community life;

FOURTH The advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional persons united in the ideal of service.

Classification principle

By assigning each member a classification based on his or her business or profession, this system ensures that the club's membership reflects the business and professional composition of its community. The number of members holding a particular classification is limited according to the size of the club. The goal is professional diversity, which enlivens the club's social atmosphere and provides a rich resource of occupational expertise to carry out service projects and provide club leadership.

Avenues of Service

Based on the Object of Rotary, the Avenues of Service are Rotary's philosophical cornerstone and the foundation on which club activity is based:

- Club Service focuses on strengthening fellowship and ensuring the effective functioning of the club.
- Vocational Service encourages Rotarians to serve others through their vocations and to practice high ethical standards.
- Community Service covers the projects and activities the club undertakes to improve life in its community.
- International Service encompasses actions taken to expand Rotary's humanitarian reach around the globe and to promote world understanding and peace.
- New Generations Service recognizes the positive change implemented by youth and young adults through leadership development activities, service projects, and exchange programs.

