

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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March is Literacy Month



TODAY 'S PROGRAMME:

Mr. Lee Kim Chye on *"State of Housing in Johor."*

LAST WEEK:

Mr. Sie Tho Hoong Kin on *"Introduction of Malaysian Birds"*.

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Rtn Dr. Vishwadeep
Rtn Francis Gopal
Rtn Chua Tze Wei

Hi Fellow Rotarians,

March is Literacy Month in Rotary calendar. This reflects the importance given to literacy for it is one key area of focus of RI. Improving literacy in under-developed, developing countries and even in developed countries is key to a better life.

With better literacy, there is better income, living conditions and food and less communicable diseases. It is through better education that the poor can break the cycle of poverty that is so prevalent throughout the world.

RCJB did a literacy project last month and we hope the RM45,000.00 worth of library books given to the 14 schools are read by the thousands of students in these schools. We will do a follow up to check on the usage.

I am now on my way to the Philippines on the first of two missions this month. We hope to correct the facial deformities of some children and even adults. This will give the children a better body image and confidence and thus also help them to do better in their education .

March 29 is the fifth Tuesday and thus it is time for ladies program. PP Ooi Kao Yang will talk on our trip to Cambodia to present US3000.00 to the Shobana Women Foundation. He took hundreds of pictures, some of which were very interesting. I am sure he will give a good talk, so please bring your wife along and also join us for dinner after that.

Thank you

Yours in Rotary

Anga

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Last Week's Talk : Mr. Sie Tho Hoong Kin on "*Introduction of Malaysian Birds*".

On Tuesday, Rotarians gathered in a sizeable flock for the weekly meet and for the talk of the day on introduction of Malaysian birds. Birds of the feathered kind nonetheless, as introduced by Mr. Sie Tho Hoong Kin. A retired teacher of Industrial Arts who graduated from the Technical Teacher's Training College and whose last posting was at Sekolah Menengah Dato' Jaafar here in Johor Bahru.

Mr. Sie Tho is also a member and in charge of the "Bird Group" of the Malaysian Nature Society, Johor Bahru branch. Mr. Sie Tho, who also happens to be Rtn. Lee Soo Tong's former teacher gave us an interesting talk and visual treat to the birds that we so often take not much notice of here in Malaysia due to our busy city life.

To date, there are close to 700 different species of birds recorded here in Malaysia, of which, 426 species are considered "Residents" or rather native to our country and the rest are categorized as being "Passage Migrants", "Winter Visitors" and "Vagrants". Logically, birds will always be found where food, shelter and protection available for each specific species. There are altogether, 4 different habitats that are available in Malaysia to enable these beautiful birds to flourish here. The first habitat would be gardens and parks and are abound with birds that are easily recognized due to the close proximity to human habitation, like the Yellow-Vented Bulbul (left) and the Asian Glossy Starling (right) and Black-Naped Oriole (below).



The second habitat is the wetlands, a habitat that includes beach areas, lakes, rivers, swamps, mud flats and the like where species like the Grey and Purple Heron abound along with the likes of the Lesser Adjutant Stork and the Little Egret.



A little known fact, unbeknownst to

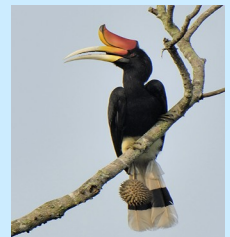
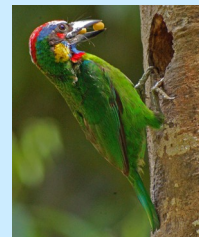
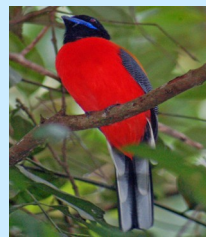


many of us is that there are beautiful wild ducks in Malaysia which are actually called Lesser Whistling Duck. The third habitat consists of the lowland forests of our vast tropical rainforest. A highly diverse



ecosystem comprising tall evergreen trees which begins from sea level up to a height of 750 meters where the Montane forest line starts.

These lowland forests, such as the Endau-Rompin National Park in Johor, is home to around 260 different species of colorful birds. Birds like the Scarlet-Rumped Trogon (left) and Red-Crowned Barbet (below) and the magnificent Rhinoceros Hornbill (right) and many others.

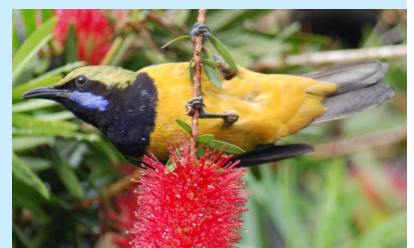


The fourth habitat, Montane or Highland forest stretches from southern Thailand to Negeri Sembilan has a unique and different avifauna with its altitude reaching upward of 1000 meters. Here you will find birds such as the Silver-Breasted Broadbill (left),



And the Orange-Bellied Leafbird amongst many others. Perhaps RCJB could arrange a bird watching trip sometime in the near future to enjoy and help

preserve our beautiful avian fauna.



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance: This week's attendance was 66.67%. Last week's was 71.15%

20th D3310 District Assembly 15 to 18 April 2010 Zon Regency Hotel: Please collect the registration forms from PE Dr. Siva.

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.



*12th March
Rtn. J.S Kwang & Rtn. Francis Gopal
Wedding Anniversary
14th March
PP Ng Yew Mun & Rtn. Liang Teh Hai*



Important Dates to note:

12-14 March 2010:
23rd Pan Borneo Meet, Tawau, Sabah

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

Advanced Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (ARYLA) 2009 (Malacca, Johor and Spore) 19-21 March 2010. at ITE College East, 10 Simei Avenue, Singapore 486047



**Induction Anniversary
PP Leslie Struys
14th March**



From the treasurer: TICKKIE BOTTLE:

COLLECTON ON 2nd Mar 2010 :

Tikkie Bottle : RM 83

Happy Fund : RM

Totalling : RM 2,279 (Tikkie Bottle)

: RM 2,000 (Happy Fund)

: SGD 2.00

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 2nd Mar 2010

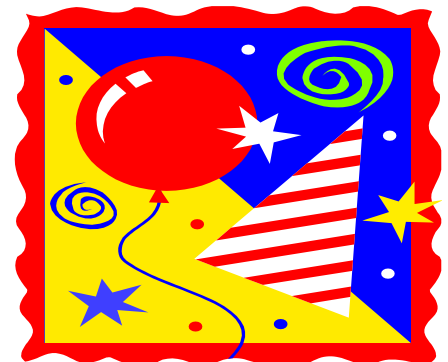
1. PP Dato Francis Ng (Excused)
2. PP Dato Dr. Singaraveloo (Excused)
3. PP Chang Teck Mark (Excused)
4. PP Dr. K.N Singh (Excused)
5. PP Dato Dr. Teoh Beng Hoe (Excused)
6. PP Roland Choong (Excused)
7. PP Jit Sehgal (Excused)
8. PP Lim Kay Hua
9. PP Dato' Mokkam Singh
10. PP Tony Ong
11. PP Nari Gidwani
12. PP Mohd. Noh Ibrahim
13. PP Datuk K. Zaman
14. PP Jason Tan
15. PP Mok Tai Dwan
16. Rtn. Tan Chee Seng
17. PP Chua Kean Num
18. Rtn. Koh Jit Huat
19. Rtn. S. Elendran
20. Rtn. Dr. Lee Kim Tiong
21. Rtn. Liang Teh Hai
22. Rtn. Datuk Freddie Long
23. Rtn. Chua Tze-Wei
24. Rtn. Lee Chin Leong

FROM THE ATTENDANCE CHAIRMAN PP FRANCIS LIP :- AS AT 2nd March 2010

Membership	58
Excused	7
Effective	51
Present	34
Percentage	66.67%

MEMBERS CELEBRATE

MARCH		Wedding	Induction
Name	Birthday	Anniversary	Anniversary
John Cheah			4
Lee Kim Tiong			25
Francis Gopal		12	
J S Kwang		12	16
Freddie Lee	12		
Leslie Struys			14
Ng Yew Mun		14	
Liang Teh Hai		14	
Tan Chee Seng		19	
Mok Tai Dwan	20		
Francis Ng	20		
Chin Kuie Too	22		
Alan Cheng			21
Roland Choong	27		
Leong Chee Woh	29		



Chilean Districts Organize Efforts to Aid Quake Victims

By Ryan Hyland

Rotary International News -- 2 March 2010

Rotary districts in Chile are organizing efforts to aid tens of thousands of homeless people in areas devastated by a powerful earthquake and tsunami that struck the country's Pacific coast on 27 February.

Chile's government, along with other international aid organizations, has supplied food and water to desperate survivors as the death toll has risen to nearly 800. Many coastal towns were destroyed, first by the 8.8 magnitude quake, then by surging tsunami waves.

Luis Veliz Severino, governor of District 4320, has allocated an initial US\$9,500 to relief efforts.

Four clubs in the hardest-hit areas of Bío-Bío and Maule have set up donation drives for clothes, shoes, and blankets.

A ShelterBox response team is en route to Chile's capital, Santiago, to deliver an initial shipment of 448 ShelterBox containers. The Rotary Club of Santiago will conduct an emergency meeting on 3 March with the ShelterBox team to decide where to distribute the containers.

"The full extent of the damage in Chile is yet to be seen, but there will undoubtedly be a need for emergency shelter," says John Leach, head of operations for ShelterBox. "Our response team will work closely with Rotarians in Santiago to make sure the aid reaches the people who need it most."

Six Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholars who were in affected areas have reported in safe.

RI President John Kenny offered condolences via e-mail to governors of districts 4320, 4340, 4350, and 4360 in Chile. He asks Rotarians to learn the latest on Rotary's relief efforts and how they can help as it becomes available at www.rotary.org.



Rotary districts in Chile are organizing efforts to provide aid to tens of thousands left homeless by an 8.8 magnitude earthquake 27 February. Map by U.S. Geological



The Four-Way Test dissected

By Arnold R. Grahl

Rotary International News -- 2 March 2010

In 1932, Herbert J. Taylor wrote down four questions on a small white piece of paper to serve as an "ethical yardstick" for his employees.

His simple creation has come to be known as The Four-Way Test. Re-
vered by Rotarians, it has been translated into more than 100 languages
and recited weekly at club meetings around the globe.

When Merv Hecht, a member of the Rotary Club of Santa Monica, Cali-
fornia, USA, challenged the notions behind the test as unrealistic and
impractical in today's world, his letter in the December 2009 issue of *The
Rotarian* prompted a flood of responses, many in defense of the test.

"Is it the TRUTH? The truth is variable," Hecht writes in his letter, re-
flecting on the first tenet of the test. "It used to be the 'truth' that the
world was flat. And if you didn't accept that truth, you were burned at
the stake. Then for many years it was taught that the world was round.

Now they say it's elliptical because of the pull of gravity. Which is true?" He goes on to argue that what is
fair for some is seldom fair for all, and that the final two points of the test are "not the way the world
works." ([Read the full letter.](#))

Hecht says he is surprised by the response his letter has received. "It was a spur-of-the-moment letter, but
in thinking about it now, I think it's a reaction to the black-and-white attitude that is permeating our soci-
ety," he says. "Absolutism is dividing our fellow Americans as well as our international friends. The Four-
Way Test is another of these absolutes that fails to train people to see the grays in social relationships. Per-
haps Rotary, one of my very favorite organizations, could be improved with a new Four-Way Test that in-
cludes an openness to other points of view."

Below are a few of the many responses that have poured into *The Rotarian*'s mailbox.

- Dale Bailey, of San Diego, California, USA, agrees with Hecht: "You're right -- The Four-Way Test is obsolete. We now live in a world where absolutes only erode our freedoms. Truth is now only that which benefits the bearer."
 - John Collier, president-elect of the Rotary Club of West U (Houston), Texas, USA, writes: "If I am committed to the truth, I do not deceive people. I am transparent. I am committed to full disclosure and the truth as I know it, because deception is a practice that tries to persuade someone to believe a lie."
 - Marsha Doyle, treasurer of the Rotary Club of Lamar, Missouri, USA, responds: "The Four-Way Test isn't supposed to be easy. I believe it is supposed to make one think hard and search to the heart of every matter to ensure that the one asking is diligently seeking integrity. We try and fail now and then, but we try. We succeed far more often. Rotary should continue to promote the test as a standard to which all persons of integrity and goodwill can aspire."
 - George Paden, a member of the Rotary Club of Sand Springs, Oklahoma, USA, and district Rotary Peace Fellowships chair, says: "I respectfully submit that 'this is not the way the world works' is precisely the reason every member of Rotary should totally embrace the principles set forth in our Four-Way Test. Rotarians do not work the way the world works. Rotarians are not people who are motivated by what's-in-it-for-me or what-have-you-done-for-me-lately kinds of thinking."
- Connie Cockcroft, president of the Rotary Club of Athens, Pennsylvania, USA, writes: "The Four-Way Test is the purest, most humble way to gauge the ethics of our professions."



Herbert Taylor with The Four-Way Test. *Rotary Images*

Help Rotary grow and create a better future

Rotary International News -- 17 February 2010

During its June meeting, the Rotary International Board of Directors adopted a new membership slogan, "**Each Rotarian: Reach One, Keep One.**" The slogan emphasizes the importance of both recruitment and retention in sustaining and increasing membership.

To support this strategy, RI administers a web-based program designed to assist clubs and districts with identifying prospective members and to place relocating or former Rotarians in new clubs. Every Rotarian can directly support Rotary's membership growth and retention by using the membership referral and Rotarian relocation forms.

The **membership referral form** is for Rotarians wishing to recommend a qualified friend, family member, or business associate as a potential candidate for membership in a Rotary club other than their own.

Rotarians who are moving or have moved and can't remain in their current club can submit the **relocation form** to learn more about clubs in their new area. Club secretaries and other club members should remind relocating club members to complete the form to request assistance becoming acquainted with clubs in their destination city.

Once the forms are submitted, RI staff reviews them and sends valid, complete forms to district governors and/or district membership chairs for evaluation and further action. Potential members are either directly contacted by district governors or district membership chairs or referred to the appropriate club president for follow up. Rotarians have been enthusiastic about leads from the program.

"This is a wonderful membership recruitment tool," says Matthew J. Salatino, past president of the Rotary Club of Schaumburg A.M., Illinois, USA.

District Governor Georgia Medori, of the Rotary Club of Vestavia Hills, Alabama, USA, agrees. In one day, she received two prospective member inquiries through RI's membership program. "Outstanding! Keep those e-mails coming," Medori says.

Help Rotarians learn about RI's membership program by placing a **banner ad** on your club or district's website or blog. These ads direct prospective members, relocating Rotarians, and current members to the appropriate form on RI's website.

Don't let great candidates for membership pass you by. Encourage club members to become familiar with Rotary's membership program to enhance your club and district membership efforts.

SHARE YOUR PASSION
FOR ROTARY!
REFER A MEMBER!

Complete the Membership Referral Form at www.rotary.org/membershipreferral to recommend a friend, family member, business associate, or other qualified individual for potential membership in a club other than your own.



Every Rotarian can directly support Rotary's membership growth and retention.

Last Words

MOTIVATIONAL QUOTES

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains.
 The superior teacher strates. The great teacher in-
 spires.

William Arthur Ward

An education obtained with money is worse than no
 education at all

Socrates

BC 469-399, Greek Philosopher of Athens

Education would be so much more effective if its pur-
 pose were to ensure that by the time they leave school
 every boy and girl should know how much they don't
 know, and be imbued with a lifelong desire to know
 it.

Sir William Haley

The central task of education is to implant a will and
 facility for learning; it should produce not learned
 but learning people. The truly human society is a
 learning society, where grandparents, parents, and
 children are students together.

Eric Hoffer

Humor

A man walks into a hamburger shop and orders a regular meal. Later, the waitress brings his meal to him. He takes a bite out of it, and notices there's a small hair in the hamburger. He begins yelling frantically at the waitress, "Waitress, there's a hair in my hamburger! I demand to see what is going on!"

So, the waitress takes him back where the cook is and to his demise, he sees the cook take the meat patty and flatten it under his arm pit. He says, "That's disgusting!"

Then the waitress says, "You think that's disgusting you should see him make donuts."

There were these three guys. They had been walking for 3 days and were very tired. They found a hotel, rented a room and went to sleep. Then, this old guy comes in out of nowhere, and says there is a magic pool just outside their hotel room. He tells them "Ok, you must jump off the diving board, and yell out what you wanna land in."

So the three guys go over to the pool. The first guy, a vegetarian, yells out "Bananas!" and lands in a pool of bananas. The second guy was money hungry and yelled out "Money!" and lands in a pile of money. The third guy jumps, when a bird shits on his head, and he yells "Oh Shit!"



"Well, I guess I'll have the ham and eggs."