



THE WATERFRONT

Club website: www.kuchingcentralrotary.org

THIS IS THE WEEKLY NEWS BULLETIN OF THE *ROTARY CLUB OF KUCHING CENTRAL*, KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA; ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3310; CHARTERED ON 23RD DECEMBER 1986.

WEEKLY LUNCHEON MEETING AT 1PM EVERY SATURDAY (EXCEPT PUBLIC HOLIDAYS) AT THE RIVERSIDE MAJESTIC HOTEL, KUCHING, SARAWAK, MALAYSIA

ROTARY VOCATIONAL SERVICE AWARDS FOR MEDICAL HEALTH PERSONNEL IN SARAWAK WHO CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF SARS (SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME) EPIDEMIC

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In conjunction with Rotary Vocational Service month in October, the Rotary Club of Kuching Central took the opportunity to present Rotary Vocational Service awards to two medical personnel namely Dr. Ismail @ Abdul Latif Bin Drahman & Ms. Puala Candida Ak Joseph Jantan who both played contributing roles in preventing the spread of SARS in the state. The awards were presented by the club President Sylvester Fong and witnessed by Governor David Tong of Rotary International District 3310 and Dr. Yao Sik Chi, the Director of Sarawak Health Department during the club's weekly meeting on 11 October 2003.



President Sylvester presenting the club's banner to Puala Candida. Also seen Dr. Ismail (2nd right).

About Dr. Ismail @ Abdul Latif Bin Drahman & his contributions:

He was the Director of Hospital Sentosa during the SARS outbreak and was responsible to contain the outbreak of SARS from Hospital Sentosa. He took charge of the 280 quarantined staff taking all the necessary steps to run the hospital and ensuring that all services go uninterrupted despite the SARS outbreak. He made sure that the routine

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activities and services of the hospital continue to operate by coordinating with nearby clinics. He treated the affected SARS patients as instructed by the chief physician of the Sarawak General Hospital. He also looked after the welfare of the staff to ensure that they were not infected by SARS. Dr. Ismail also counseled some of his staff emotionally and monitored the patients in the hospital 24 hours a day. He gave regular talks and advices so that the staff can improve their moral. After 3 weeks of monitoring and treating the affected patients in the hospital, no new cases developed.

About Puala Candida Ak Joseph Jantan & her contributions:

Puala Candida is a nursing staff at the Sarawak General Hospital and during the SARS epidemic, she was in the first group of staff who were quarantined. She was appointed as a team leader from 1/4/2003 until 18/4/2003. At the time of the SARS epidemic, she was in-charge of the SARS Isolation Ward at Sarawak General Hospital.

She coordinated deployment of nursing staff and attendants to work at the SARS Isolation Ward of the Sarawak General Hospital from 1 April 2003 to 18 April 2003. During this period, Puala had to look after the welfare of her subordinate, took necessary steps to make sure the ward was ready to receive patients suspected of SARS. She also ensured her staff were compelled to wear special outfits dubbed as the PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) during the period and that the Universal Precaution was practiced in full force by all the staff under her care. As a team leader, she also had to nurse the patients who were suspected of having SARS as instructed by chief physician, Dr. Chiew Peng Hong of the Sarawak General Hospital. Each patient was warded and treated with great precaution in isolated rooms and their progress was well monitored because reports had to be regularly faxed to the relevant authorities. She was also responsible to communicate to the patients' immediate next of kin by telephone on their conditions. One of the key tasks that she had to do was to provide emotional and spiritual support to patients and relatives during the period while ensuring that there were no free movements of staff in and out from SARS Ward. Even after the SARS outbreak, Ms. Puala is still on standby duty. She has to be ready to report for duty at any time. Once she was called to report duty at

1.00 am in the morning when there was a suspected SARS case.

All the above activities were some of the key tasks executed by both Dr. Ismail and Ms. Puala to ensure that there is no further spreading of SARS virus so that the community that we live in will be back to its normal state and for its citizens to live in peace again. "Hence, it is only appropriate that the Rotary Club of Kuching Central takes this opportunity to present them with the Rotary Vocational Service awards as a way to say thank you for a job well done", said Rotarian Cecil Yong, the club's Vocational Service Director.



Dr. Yao Sik Chi, the Director of Sarawak Health Department, addressing the members.



Vocational Service Director, Rtn Cecil Yong, reading the bio-data of Puala and Dr. Ismail.

PRESIDENT SYLVESTER OFFICIATED THE INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF THE INTERACT CLUB OF KUCHING TOWN NO. 1



On 4th October 2003, President Sylvester Fong attended the Installation ceremony of the new president of the Interact Club of Kuching Town No. 1. Also present were PP. Bobby Chai, the Director for Service to New Generations, and as well as other members of the club.

A group photo with the Interactors and teachers-advisers.

WHAT IS AN INTERACT CLUB?

Interact is a Rotary-sponsored service club for young people ages 14-18. The program gives young people an opportunity to participate in fun, meaningful service projects while developing leadership skills and meeting new friends.

Through service activities, Interactors learn the importance of:

...Developing leadership skills and personal integrity;

...Demonstrating helpfulness and respect for others; and

...Advancing international understanding and goodwill.

For more information, please visit

<http://www.rotary.org/programs/interact/index.htm>



About Rotary Youth Exchange.....

A Brazilian student makes her first snowman in Finland. A South African masters eating with chopsticks at his Japanese hosts' home. An Australian becomes part of an extended family in Russia, and a Mexican student in France raises funds to benefit homeless children in Haiti. New experiences, new "families" and friends, and new adventures can await you, too.

This year, more than 8,000 teens will see the world the way it is best seen — from the inside out — through the Youth Exchange program. This could be your year.

As a Rotary Youth Exchange student, you will spend a year, or perhaps just an extended period of time, living with a host family in a country other than your own. You may learn a new language; you will learn a new way of living and a great deal about yourself. But there's more. While you are busy learning, the people you meet will be learning as well — about your country, culture, and ideas. You will be an ambassador. You will be helping to bring the world closer together, and you'll be making good friends in the process.

If you are ready for the challenge and the rewards of living in another land as an exchange student, then you are ready to discover new worlds through the Rotary Youth Exchange.

http://www.rotary.org/programs/youth_ex/students/about.html

Send Us Your Story

If you would like to share your Interact club success or personal Interact experience, please e-mail a short description (approximately 500k with digital photo) to me, for posting in the District 3310 website. Be sure to include your name and Interact club. Thank you.

Regards
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WHAT'S ON- IN THE ROTARY CALENDAR?

	WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	CONTACT
1	Avoidable Blindness Conference	Hyatt Hotel, Johor Bahru	18 Oct'03 9am	R.C. of Pasir Gudang
2	2003 Rotary Zonal Institute	Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore	7-9 Nov 2003	PP. Polycarp Teo Sebom
3	Intercity Meeting	Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore	9 Nov'03 @ 12-2pm	PP. Polycar Teo Sebom
4	1 st Rotaract & Interact Conference	Suntec City Convention Hall, Singapore	9-11 Jan'04 9 Jan'04	PP. Bobby Chai
5	Golf Fellowship at District Conference			Rtn. Thomas Ngu
6	District 3310 Conference	Suntec City Convention Hall, Singapore	10-11 Jan'04	Rtn. Thomas Ngu
7	2004 Rotary International Convention	Osaka, Japan	23-26 May 2004	PP. Polycarp Teo Sebom
8	2005 Rotary International Convention	Chicago, Illinois, USA	19-22 June 2005	TBA
9	2005 Rotary International Convention	Copenhagen, Denmark & Malmo, Sweden	11-14 June 2006	TBA

Notes: Events printed in italic bold are new events which have just been included in this issue. TBA= To Be Announced.

SISTER CLUBS:

1. R.C. OF MELAKA
2. R.C. OF QUEENSTOWN, SINGAPORE
3. R.C. OF CHIA YII WEST, TAIWAN