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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

DECEMBER IS ROTARY FAMILY MONTH



December is Rotary Family Month, acknowledging the increasing significance the family has taken on in Rotary.

Family Month nudges Rotary clubs to plan special activities involving family members, including the widowed spouses of Rotarians, and to consider ways to make families central to club life all year long. The month long observance also encourages reflection on the importance to Rotary's future of its extended family — partners in service like Rotaractors and Interactors as well as Rotarians' own family members. The observance replaces Family Week, which had been on the Rotary calendar the second week of February since 1996.

For generations, Rotary clubs around the world have demonstrated their commitment to families through service with activities like operating food pantries and building low-cost shelters. Many Rotarians become second families to Youth Exchange students; others open their homes to participants in Rotary Foundation programs.

Another way Rotary clubs mark Family Month is by conferring RI's Family and Community Service Award certificate (757-EN) on individuals or organizations for outstanding service. Share with others the myriad ways your own club or district serves, celebrates, and strengthens the family during this inaugural year of a special month.

The club will organize a Christmas party this month that will be participated by Rotarians and their families. So please join in when PP Abel Chieng makes his announcement.

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RYLA AT SARAWAK CULTURAL VILLAGE

Each year, thousands of young people take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program worldwide. Young people ages 14-30 chosen for their leadership potential attend an all-expenses-paid seminar, camp, or workshop to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Rotary clubs and districts select participants and facilitate the event's curriculum.

RYLA aims to:

- Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth;
- Provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders;
- Encourage leadership of youth by youth; and
- Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities.

RYLA was officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, and is one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service. RYLA programs often lead to the formation or strengthening of [Rotaract](#) and [Interact](#) clubs. RYLA participants often go on to become [Youth Exchange](#) students or [Ambassadorial Scholars](#). This year, RYLA for East Malaysia is being organized by the R.C. of Kuching under the Organising Chairman of PP Patrick Panai. It will be held next week on 13 December at the Sarawak Cultural Village. DG David Tong is expected to come to declare open the event.



PP. Philip Tang making a special visit to the club. It was nice to have him back again. He was on a special mission from Melbourne.



A visit to Datuk Bandar Hj Madehi Kolek in conjunction with the official visit of DG David Tong to Kuching in October 2003.



Couple of the year in celebration.



PP Frankie Yang with the 'New Generations' community.

From Catherine Tran, Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar 2001-02

Dear Fellow Rotarians, Rotary Scholars and Friends:

I just wanted to give you an update about my current activities. I moved to Washington, D.C. in March and have been working for the U.S. Congress. More specifically, I work for the Minority Office of the Committee on House Administration in the U.S. House of Representatives. Our committee is primarily responsible for federal election law, which includes election reform, campaign finance and the continuity of Congress. In addition, the committee's purview includes an eclectic mix of seemingly unrelated responsibilities, including oversight of the day-to-day operations of the House, the Smithsonian Institution, parts of the Library of Congress and the U.S. Government Printing Office.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working for the committee and Congressman John Larson (D-CT), the ranking member of the committee. Working on Capitol Hill has been a series of amazing learning opportunities. Since my appointment in March, I have been promoted twice and currently work on special projects for the committee. I am also the committee's liaison to the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. During this past August, I was selected to accompany the chairman of the committee and a select group of staff on a congressional delegation to Russia and the Czech Republic to study election procedure and reform, library and museum issues, as well as administrative issues of legislative bodies.

Outside of work, I maintain a busy schedule, filled with various community, volunteer and social activities. Most notably, I am pleased to inform you that I am a Charter Member of the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill, the first new Rotary Club in Washington, D.C. in 90 years. It is a very exciting opportunity for me! Because I have benefited so much from my involvement as a Rotary Scholar, I enthusiastically jumped at the chance to join this new club.

Our new club can use your help. Because we encourage young people who are just starting their career, like me, to join Rotary, we will be giving scholarships to Charter Members who could use financial assistance to attend our Charter Night Celebration and Dinner. If you would like to contribute to this fund, please send donations (payable to "Capitol Hill Rotary Club") to me. My new contact information is:

Catherine Tran
400 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20003
(301) 801-7607 mobile
catherine.tran@alumni.ucsd.edu

In addition, we are accepting from other Rotary Clubs for various Rotary items that we need to get started. Please contact me if your club would like to help. The items include:

- Blank Banners to post other club flags
- Club Flag (which has already been designed)
- Name badge box
- Visiting Rotary make-up cards
- Rotary pins
- Flag stand
- Banner storage case
- Rotary Guest sticker badges



A lucky draw for a lucky PP Chieng Lee Ching



The 'gang' of car washer at the fundraising car wash organized by the Rotaract Club of Swinburne Sarawak Institute of Technology.

Waiting to be 'washed'



The 'notorious' gang leader, Andrew Chong telling the team 'Do what I tell you to do BUT don't do what I do!!!'



WHAT'S ON- IN THE ROTARY CALENDAR?

	WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	CONTACT
1	<i>Annual General Meeting (AGM)</i>	<i>Crowne Plaza Riverside Hotel</i>	<i>20 Dec'03</i>	<i>Rtn. Frankie Ong</i>
2	1 st Rotaract & Interact Conference	Suntec City Convention Hall, Singapore	9-11 Jan'04	PP. Bobby Chai
3	Golf Fellowship at District Conference	Laguna National Golf Club, Singapore	8 Jan'04 12.30pm	Rtn. Thomas Ngu
4	District 3310 Conference	Suntec City Convention Hall, Singapore	10-11 Jan'04	Rtn. Thomas Ngu
5	14 th District Assembly (Hosted by R.C. of Melaka)	Melaka	April 2004	Rtn. Thomas Ngu
6	International Avoidable Blindness Conference (Hosted by R.C. Singapore East)	Suntec City, Convention Hall, Singapore	1-2 May'04	PP. Polycarp Teo Sebom
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.