



27 March 2004

Issue No. 37/03-04

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

DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

9

t seems not that long ago that I was handed the collar of office as the 13th District Governor of District 3310 by IPDG Michael Parry.

Time flies and next month April 2004 we will gather in Melaka to hold our 14th District Assembly, the purpose of which is the training of incoming AGs, District Officers, Club Presidents, Secretaries and Club Officers to assume their respective offices in the Clubs and District in the year 2004-05. Another important part of the agenda is also the installation of DGE Dr. Ivor Thevathasan as the 14th District Governor of District 3310.

Our District has had a successful year in 2003-04. I have 13 of the finest Rotarians serving as Assistant Governors, 43 great Rotarians serving as Chairmen/ Chairpersons of the various District Committees and Sub-Committees and 64 great Club Presidents and BODs serving their communities that comprise our District. I have been truly blessed to have this opportunity to work with such wonderful and selfless individuals. Thank you for living up to our year's theme " Lend a Hand " in every sense of the words.

Irene and I have been warmly welcomed during my Official Visits and at all gatherings at both club and District levels. You made us feel truly good and you accorded the offices of District Governor and First Lady the importance and pride of place in your hearts and in your clubs. We are truly grateful to you.

My dear Rotarians, this 14th District Assembly is especially significant. As an organization we will be 100 years in service next year. This is an excellent opportunity for us all to remind ourselves of the noble role of Rotary and for us as a club and as individuals in the clubs to examine how we ourselves have performed in past years and whether there is a need for us to re-focus and re-invent ourselves to stay relevant to



District Governor David Tong

INSIDE

- 1 'Family in Rotary' at KK
- 2 District Assembly/Children at Risk
- 3 Decisions by RI Board
- 4 What's on in Rotary Calendar

the needs of the communities, local and abroad, that we serve.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank the Past District Governors who have been very supportive to our District team and me.

Finally my good wishes to DGE Dr. Ivor Thevathasan and his spouse Maureen for a wonderful "Celebrate Rotary" year ahead of them as they take over the leadership of our District.

Warmest regards,

District Governor David Tong & First Lady Irene Tong

'FAMILY IN ROTARY' ACTIVITIES AT KK

Seven members from the club recently attended the 17th Pan Borneo Meet which was held in Kota Kinabalu (KK) on 20 March 2004. However, in view of the school holiday which coincided with the event, 4 of them brought along their immediate family members.

While President Sylvester and his family arrived on Thursday, 18 March, most of the delegates arrived on 17 March flying by Air Asia at RM174 for a return journey between Kuching & KK. On the day of arrival in KK at



The Group at Sutera Harbour departing for the islands.



Some of the group members getting ready for paragliding.

11.25am, most went shopping immediately after lunch followed by dinner at the Grand Port View restaurant hosted by Rtn Chai Kho Jee. The seafood was delicious. Too bad for those who did not make it!

The next morning, the group left the hotel at 9am to take a boat ride to Sapi and Manukan islands from the Sutera Harbour. Upon arrival at Sapi island, most went for snorkeling in the crystal clear water swimming side by side with the school of fish.

Rtn Chai Kho Jee led the children of Rtn Thomas Ngu as well as PP Andre and his son, Irwan for paragliding at 300feet above the sea while some were left in awed at the boat. By 12.45pm, the group left Sapi island and headed for Manukan island where they had lunch hosted by Rtn Thomas Ngu (through no fault of his!). The group left the island at 2.45pm and headed back to Sutera Harbour to rest

at Shangrila hotel thereafter. It was definitely a time for Family in Rotary!



Rtn Chai Kho Jee getting ready to take off to 300ft sea level!

The District Assembly

In view of the annual turnover of Rotary leadership each year, special effort is required to provide the more than 31,000 club leaders with appropriate instruction for the tasks they will assume. The annual district assembly is the primary training event for incoming club officers.

The district assembly offers motivation, inspiration, Rotary information, and new ideas for club officers, directors, and key committee chairs of each club. Some of the most experienced district leaders conduct informative discussions on all phases of Rotary administration and service projects. The assembly gives participants valuable new ideas to make their club more effective and interesting. Usually 8 to 10 delegates from each club are invited to attend the training session.

Another important feature of a district assembly is a review by the incoming district governor of the theme and emphasis of the new RI president for the coming year. District goals and objectives are also described, and plans are developed for their implementation.

The success of each Rotary club is frequently determined by the club's representation and participation in the annual district assembly which is to be held in Melaka from 22 (afternoon) to 23 April (PETS & SETS) followed by the District Assembly from 24 to 25 April 2004. 12 members of the club have already been registered for the event to be led by PE Aw Tai Hui.

Highlights of Actions Taken by the Board of Directors of Rotary International

1. The Board also looked with favor on the 2012 RI Convention being held in Brazil, Malaysia, Thailand, or Australia.
2. Starting in 2004-05, the RI president will send welcome letters to new Rotarians.
3. Effective with 1 July 2004 per capita dues, a terminated club must secure reinstatement within one year of its termination date to retain its charter, name, and history.
4. Furthermore, a club will only be able to revise its membership list within one year of a semiannual report due date.
5. The Board recommends that a Rotarian who has outstanding financial obligations to RI in excess of US\$100 for more than 180 days be removed from any current appointment or assignment by the RI president or trustee chairman, as appropriate.

Children at Risk

For decades, and especially in recent years, Rotarians have been focusing their attention and resources on vulnerable and troubled children. From "adopting" homeless children to serving meals to schoolchildren from low-income families, Rotary clubs worldwide are working to provide education, housing, and a safe, secure environment for needy children. The plight of children at risk merits every effort.



According to United Nations agencies, an astounding number of children worldwide are living under extremely difficult conditions:

- Some 40 million children ages 14 and younger suffer abuse and neglect.
- An estimated 250 million children ages 5-14 are working.
- More than 100 million children live on the streets, vulnerable to exploitation, drugs, and crime.
- Nearly 12 million children under age five die every year from preventable childhood diseases and malnutrition.
- Some 130 million children of primary school age, mostly girls, do not attend school, contributing to shorter life spans and greater susceptibility to poverty and illness.



PP Andre & Norzan at the golf fellowship with Mrs Liew, spouse of President Jimmy Liew of Likas Bay.

MORE PHOTOS AT THE 17TH PAN BORNEO



At the Pan Borneo Reef Rejuvenation project. Pres. Sylvester (2nd from left) and DG David Tong (3rd from left) observing DGE Dr. Ivor pouring the cement into the mould to make the artificial reef with the help of Pres. George Ng (1st right).



At the Banquet with members of R.C. KK. Also seen standing 2nd from left is DGE Dr. Ivor.



The Kuching Central delegations with DG David Tong and DGE Dr. Ivor Thevathasan.

WHAT'S ON- IN THE ROTARY CALENDAR?

	WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	CONTACT
1	District Team Training Seminar (DTTS) (organized by R.C. of Skudai)	Hyatt Hotel Johor Bahru	26-27 Mar'04	PP. Andre Suharto
2	Intercity Meeting (organized by R.C. of Spore West)	Singapore	8 Apr'04	Rtn Thomas Ngu
3	Submission of District Award (category B-membership & attendance)	Must be received by District Award Committee	10 April'04	Rtn. Thomas Ngu
4	14 th District Assembly (Hosted by R.C. of Kota Melaka & Singapore)	Renaissance Melaka Hotel	22-25 April'04	Rtn. Thomas Ngu
5	International Avoidable Blindness Conference (Hosted by R.C. Singapore East)	Suntec City, Convention Hall, Singapore	1-2 May'04	PP. Polycarp Teo Sebom
6	Sales of Nasi Lemak	School of the Mentally Retarded	2 May'04	PP. Patrick Yu
7	2004 Rotary International Convention	Osaka, Japan	23-26 May 2004	PP. Polycarp Teo Sebom
8	18 th Pan Borneo	Imperial Hotel, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei	<i>June 2005</i>	<i>TBA</i>
9	Joint District 3310 & 3400 Conference	Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia	March 2005	<i>TBA</i>
10	2005 Rotary International Convention	Chicago, Illinois, USA	18-22 June 2005	TBA
11	2006 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.