



Rotary crossroads

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28TH DISTRICT 3310 CONFERENCE

26-28 April 2019

G-Hotel Gurney, Penang



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In Focus

The Servant Leader

By: Honorary Member (HM) Past President (PP) Raymon Huang



HM PP Raymon Huang

Rotarians are mostly, by virtue of their station in life, captains of industry and the professions. True, while not always at the top-top, they are at the top echelon. They are there because they have succeeded, and succeeded well, in their various and own areas of endeavour. And why have they succeeded? Simply and largely because they have served their customers with the right products, whatever these may be.

As a prominent industry leader once said, “You know what this situation makes us? The customers are our bosses, and we are their servants!” Come to think of it, what is said is a telling truth. If his customers were not happy with the ware he offered them, he would not be where he was.

So, what has this got to do with Rotary? A service organisation whose members are all volunteers. We have nothing to sell as such. But – oh yes, we do have something to offer to our “customers” too, service! Our “customers”? The beneficiaries. Indeed, an intangible thing like “service” is even more difficult to define correctly than a tangible IT product, for example. This however, does not change the customer-servant situation we talk about. In so many like-ways, the beneficiaries are our bosses, and we Rotarians are the servants.

One of Rotary’s outstanding clarion calls is “Service Above Self”. Those three words say and portray a lot. It is always “service” before “self”. You can call it “charity” if you like. It begins at home. And as we embark upon a journey of a thousand miles of charity, the first step begins. Along the way, we do good, make differences, and serve our fellow mankind. We give back, as we receive. As the Good Book says so clearly, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” And in Buddha’s wise words, “The charitable man is loved by all; his friendship is prized highly.”

Rotary’s work of charity around the world is well-known. It goes on round the clock too. In so many fields and areas of need and want, and to countless peoples needing a much-needed helping hand.

In giving all this service, and to make each and every such service achieve full success, able and good leaders are essential. In fact, necessary. The measure of success is the happiness of the beneficiaries, satisfied “customers”. Happiness is not always obvious. Mark Twain put it in this way, once, “Happiness is like a Swedish sunset. It is there for all to see, but many of us look the other way, and lose it.” Indeed, many customers and beneficiaries do that, so Rotarians, as the leaders and executors of any service they offer, must ensure most of our “customers” do not look the other way. That would be the hallmark of a good “leader-servant”, or, to put it more correctly, as a good “Servant-Leader”. Not always as easy path to trod on. But most Rotarians make the journey pretty well.

We know well-enough, of course. Rotary is not the only service organisation doing this. There are so, so many others doing the same or similar things. Their leaders are servant-leaders too. All these drops of success make the mighty ocean of help needed in so many areas of life in so many parts of the world. It does seem paradoxical and strange that in these days of so much affluence, such dire needs exist. But there is no doubt that the conscience of charity has pricked many more and spread. The ripple effect of all this is that captains of industry and the professions feel they are more “servants” than leaders. In their role, many indeed have made themselves outstanding inspirations to others.



In Focus

I had hoped that in this Cherry blossom month of April, when cherry trees in Japan and Washington, DC, clothe themselves in such splendour, I would be able to write on Rotary International's designation for April as "Maternal and Child Health Month" and somehow equate them. But I felt not. It is better to leave this topic to the medico-experts in our Club. The core value of "Servant Above Self", however, remains. And the status of being "Servant Leaders" is unaltered.

By the way, during April, Rotary International's District 3310 Conference will also be held. At G-Hotel Gurney, Penang, Malaysia. Date: 26-28 April.

Photo Album of the 29th PETS & DISTAS

Held at KSL Hotel & Resort, Johor Bahru from 21-23.3.19



The Club's delegation at PETS & DISTAS



VP Rajkumar with PP Dato' Thomas Ngu (RC Kuching Central) promoting the Books of Humour for the "Gift of Life" Campaign



PE Deepak Nagrani with RI Theme banner for RY 2019/2020





Children with cardiac problem to get help From Rotary's District 3300 & 3310

WILL YOU HELP TOO?

With the blessings from our DG Henry Tan JP, a team of volunteers from Gift of Life ("GOL") headed by PP Thomas Ngu of Rotary Club of Kuching Central ("RCKC") and volunteers from Rotary Club of Singapore ("RCS") headed by VP Rtn Raj Suppiah are going into action to raise funds for the children with cardiac problem, through Books of Humour.

All the clubs in our District 3300 and 3310 will participate in promoting this project and help raise funds for these needed children.

At the DISTAS (District Assembly) in Johor Bahru, the three teams GOL, RCKC and RCS initiated the Fund-raising event and gave their time and efforts to this good cause. Their efforts did not go in vain. We sold 70 sets (210 pcs) of Books of Humour. Let us continue to contribute and give chance to these children at life.

A full set of 3 editions, **Book of Humour**, **Best of Humour** and **Bank of Humour**, come in a beautifully designed box housing this set for only S\$25.00/- or RM75/-.

PLEASE ORDER A FEW SETS TO SUPPORT AND HELP US TO BRING NEW LEASE OF LIFE TO CHILDREN AND MAKE OUR DISTRICT PROJECT SUCCESSFUL & PROUD.

(Kindly contact Rtn Mee Lee and VP Rtn Raj Suppiah)





Photo taken by PP Thomas Ngu of R C of Kuching Central with PDG Chris Chen, PP Richard Cheung and Rtn Mee Lee



“Gift of Life” volunteers in action



DG Henry Tan with PP Thomas Ngu appreciating the GOL team’s efforts.

Below is the background of the GOL international.

Gift of Life is a crusade of the heart, touching children in peril. Together with Penang Adventist Hospital, Rotarians reach out to children who would die without cardiac surgery. Rotarians pledge to save the lives of children who could be ours, by returning them lives which should be theirs.

This dynamic international programme is funded in partnership with New York Rotarians, matched by the Rotary Foundation Grants, subsidized by PAH’s subsidized surgical charges and generous gifts from the public and private sectors.

Funds raised through The Books of Humour Project will go towards the Gift of Life – Penang (International Fund), a programme that benefits less fortunate children mainly from the South East Asia countries needing corrective heart surgery. The Gift of Life – Penang (International Fund) is a joint project between Penang Adventist Hospital’s Patient Heart Fund and the Rotary Club of Penang.

The Programme has thus far benefited over 100 children from countries such as Cambodia, Indonesia Philippines and Malaysia. The Penang Adventist Hospital’s Patient Heart Fund has mended the hearts of 771 children and adults since its inception in 1988 and disbursed over RM10.6 million (as at December 2018) worth of funds to needy heart patients.





VISION FOR ALL

Upcoming Free Community Eye Screening



Saturday, 13 April 2019



9 am - 1 pm
Volunteers to report at 8.30 am



APSN Centre for Adults
11 Jalan Ubi, Block 4, #01-31, S(409074)
Kembangan-Chai Chee Community Hub

This event is organised by the Rotary Club of Singapore Community Service Committee, in collaboration with the Inner Wheel Club of Singapore and Association of Persons with Special Needs (APSN).



Please contact Community Service Director Rtn Dr Rupesh Agrawal should you wish to volunteer at this event.

Rotary Flag Day 2019



**Join us on Saturday
15 June 2019
to help more in need
of support around us**

**Some of Our Cause:
Elder Care Services
Educational & Youth Services
School Pocket Money
Meals from the Heart**



FOUNDATION
OF ROTARY
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Last Week

Last Week – Report on the 11th Evening Meeting at Grand Hyatt – Wednesday 27 March 2019

OPENING REMARKS

Acting Sergeant-at-Arms PP Stan Low called the meeting to order and requested members to put their mobiles on silent mode. He noted that President Mark was still not 100% well (although present at the meeting) and therefore called upon Vice President Rajkumar P Suppiah to conduct the meeting.

VP Raj welcomed members and noted the trial meeting venue at the Grand Hyatt Singapore which was organised by PE Deepak Nagrani whom he warmly thanked for his efforts in making all the arrangements. He requested members to kindly advise their feedback regarding this new venue. He also took the opportunity to welcome Honorary Member Rtn Mohan Vaswani to the meeting.

WELCOME

The welcome of guests of members and visiting Rotarians was performed by Rtn Mandy Pascual:

Guests:

Mrs Dolores Low
Mrs Zerine Medora
Mrs Bianca Nagrani
Mrs Kawita Vaswani
Ms Kavita Gulati
Ms Brenda Lee
Mr Peter-Paul Nijsten
Mr Phillippe O. Tiaz

Visiting Rotarians:

PP Dato' Thomas Ngu – Kuching Central
President Stephanie - Penang



Rtn Mandy Pascual

TOAST

Toastmaster PN Dinesh Sharma invited PP Dato' Thomas Ngu to address the Club. PP Thomas noted that his club, Rotary Club of Kuching Central has a close working relation with our Club, he added, even closer than sister clubs! He warmly thanked members for the support given over the years, particularly for the Rotary Run held last year which garnered about \$250,000 with \$100,000 donated from Singapore towards cataract operations for the needy.

PN Dinesh called on members to join him in raising a toast to Rotary Club of Kuching Central coupled with the traditional toast to Rotary International.



From left: VP Raj, PP Thomas & PN Dinesh



Last Week

CLUB'S TRIP TO PHILIPPINES – 14-18 March 2019

IPP Keith Harrison reported on the Club's visit to the Philippines, which started with the attendance at sister club, Rotary Club of Rizal West's 39th Charter evening on 14 March. Following the evening's celebrations, the Club delegation visited sister club, Manila as well as enjoyed fellowship with members from sister club, Rotary Club of Cauayan, who flew to Manila to meet with members, and hosted a dinner.

IPP Keith further advised that PP Dr Shahul Hameed and DG Al Montecillo from Rotary Club of Rizal West were featured on Philippines TV, promoting Rotary ideals.

After attendance at the District 3830 Conference, IPP Keith advised that members relaxed at Zambawood where they also saw the trees which were planted during the last year's tree-planting project.



IPP Keith Harrison

"GIFT OF LIFE" CAMPAIGN

VP Raj called upon PP Thomas Ngu who advised members of the "Gift of Life" campaign to raise funds for children from Indonesia with cardiac problems. He added that the fund-raising efforts were spearheaded by Rotary Clubs of Kuching Central and Singapore through Books of Humour.

PP Thomas further advised that the official launch of campaign would be held at the coming District Conference. However, PP Thomas stated that at the recent PETS/DISTAS about 240 books were sold mostly through the efforts of Rtn See Mee Lee.



PP Thomas with the Books of Humour

MAJOR PROJECT 2018-2019

VP Raj called on all members to make the Club's Major Project a success and appealed to members for their support for the following two beneficiaries:

- Singapore Polytechnic - Project to train adolescents with autism for the workplace.
And
- Singapore Repertory Theatre (SRT) – The use of drama in conjunction with and participation by students from different service communities which would focus on anti-bullying.



Last Week

Speaker: Rotarian Daniel Beyeler

Topic: “Why Humanitarian Assistance in War Zones?”



Rtn Dr Claus Dusemund

To introduce the Speaker, none other than our member Rtn Daniel Beyeler, VP Raj called on Rtn Dr Claus Dusemund. Rtn Daniel has been a member of the Club since 2014. He is the CEO/Owner of BMS Management & Services Pte Ltd, which provides Governments and their embassies with support and assistance in coping with a crisis on a strategic and operational level with and experience based Crisis and Risk Management approach.

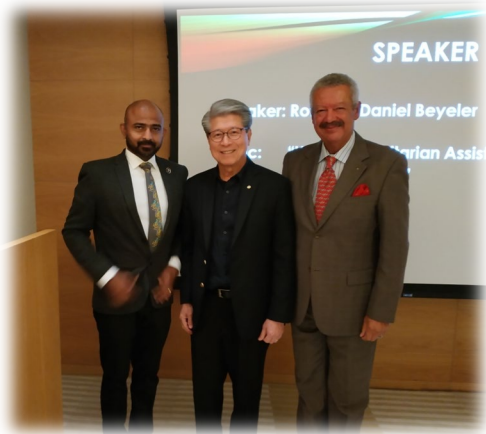
He has over 20 years experience in peace keeping operations, humanitarian affairs, disaster risk reduction, rapid response, human security and crisis management in various troubled regions of the world.



Speaker, Rtn Daniel Beyeler

Rtn Daniel's presentation provided background information on why the Humanitarian Assistance in War Zones were so important and needed more than ever to assist the People in Need, particularly in the 5 countries, which he was deployed or on mission in all countries below:

- Afghanistan, 18 years at war;
- Iraq, 16 year at war;
- Libya and Syria 8 years at war;
- Yemen 3 years at war.



From left: VP Raj, PP Stan & Rtn Daniel

He noted that there were about 60 countries involved in wars. Rtn Daniel spoke of the humanitarian principles in all conflicts and crisis such as humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence. He added that to provide humanitarian aid on a neutral and impartial basis independently and without political conditions was one of today's biggest challenges. Rtn Daniel provided facts and figures of the people in need in the five countries listed above. He gave an eye-opening account of the situation in Syria highlighting the security situation, security risks and mitigation measures and provided an explanation on the humanitarian access, hard to reach areas and besieged areas where assistance was much needed. Rtn Daniel also took questions from floor. (Rtn Daniel's presentation is available from Secretariat).

In his vote of thanks, PP Stan Low referred to Rtn Daniel as the “Action Man”; as someone who is able to tell what was happening on the ground so that we can get a holistic picture of why humanitarian assistance was needed in war zones.



Mark Your Diary

Birthday Celebrants

RC sends Birthday greetings to the following celebrants:

Dr Irina Francken
Nick De Boursac
PP Paliath Mohandas
Ivan Lew
Astha Aggarwal
Deblina Chatterjee

Anniversary Celebrants

RC sends best wishes to the following Wedding Anniversary celebrants:

Hena Hoda & Mr Gautam Hazarika
PP Dr Oliver & Irene Hennedige

Community Service Meeting

Community Service Committee Meeting will be held on:

Date: Thursday, 4 April
Time: 7.30pm

Venue: 20 Cross Street #02-18/19, China Square Central, S 048422

Hosts: Louis Lim & CSC
Director Dr Rupesh Agrawal

This Meeting

3 April 2019 Luncheon Meeting @ The Tanglin Club

Reception Desk duty: PP Perlita Tiro & T K Chew

Sunshine Box: PP Jimmy Ooi & Vijai Parwani

Speaker: Previous Member Mr Peter Koh, CEO, Oceanus Group Limited

Topic: "Service Above Self"

Vocational Service Meeting

Vocational Service Committee Fellowship will be held on:

Date: Thursday, 11 April
Time: 7.30pm

Venue: SICC (Bukit Location)
240 Sime Road, S288303.

Who's Who Directory 2019-2020

Members are reminded to submit their updated information/photographs to the Secretariat by 18 April 2019

Next Meeting

10 April 2019

Reception Desk duty: Adnan Ansari & Keizo Fujitake

Sunshine Box: Mandy Pascual & Paul Phua

Speaker: Ms Lesli Berggren, Founder of LOVE, NILS Support for Children with Cancer

Topic: "Never Give Up"

Coming Rotary Events

March

Water and Sanitation Month

28 March-7 April – Visit to Minority Tribes' Schools in Yunnan, China

April

Maternal and Child Health Month

26-28 April – District Conference, G-Hotel Gurney, Penang, Malaysia

May

Youth Service Month

June

1-5 June – Rotary International Convention, Hamburg, Germany

20 June – Sister Club, RC Bang Rak's installation dinner at Crowne Plaza Bangkok

20-22 June – Visit to sister club, RC Manila's 100th Anniversary celebrations

28 June – Sister Club Fellowship

29 June – Installation Dinner at Shangri-la Hotel Singapore





The Guide to Daily Living

Before doing the things we want to do, consider first, the Precepts of the guide. Ask ourselves these 4 questions and act upon them:

First: *Have I spent some time in self-examination?*

Second: *Have I spent quality time with my family?*

Third: *Have I given my best to my work?*

Fourth: *Have I given some time to someone near and far?*

The Guide, in fact, encompasses the 4 parts of the Object of Rotary.

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do:

- **Is it the truth?**
- **Is it fair to all concerned?**
- **Will it build goodwill and better friendship?**
- **Will it be beneficial to all concerned?**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2018/2019

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