



Lend a Hand

BERITA ROTARY

ROTARY CLUB OF KUALA LUMPUR DIRAJA

R.I. DISTRICT 3300



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Synchronized NIDs Launched Across West Africa

In a swift and aggressive response to a new polio outbreak spreading from Nigeria to neighboring countries, hundreds of thousands of volunteers and health workers in Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, and Togo started a three-day immunization campaign on 22 October. According to a joint press release from the partners of the global polio eradication initiative, the synchronized National Immunization Days will cost more than US\$10 million.

Genetically traced to northern Nigeria, the outbreak paralyzed nearly a dozen children in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Niger, and Togo and is putting 15 million children in those countries at risk. To check another case recently reported in Chad, similar campaigns are planned in that country and Cameroon for mid-November.

Centered around the state of Kano, the polio-infected states in Nigeria have re-infected other areas of the country, most worryingly the city of Lagos with its 10 million inhabitants. Epidemiologists attribute the marked increase in cases in Nigeria to insufficient coverage during both polio immunization campaigns and routine services.

In at least one state, as few as 16 percent of children have been sufficiently immunized against polio. A difficult socio-religious environment has severely compromised the quality of polio campaigns and helped spread rumors about the safety of the oral polio vaccine.

"Nigeria is now the country with the greatest number of polio cases in the world," says Dr. David Heymann, representative of the Director-General for Polio Eradication, WHO. "Polio and other infectious diseases know no national boundaries. We face a grave public health threat, and our goal of a polio-free world is in jeopardy."

Senior epidemiologists from the Global Polio Eradication Initiative convened a high-level meeting with the Nigerian minister of health at the end of September, at which the minister provided his assurance and commitment to eradicate polio in Nigeria by the end of 2004.

"Nigeria is the most populous nation in the region, and in many ways it has been a good neighbor, contributing to peacekeeping in West Africa," says UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy. "Now it has another crucial role to play in the region, and that is stomping out polio once and for all. We need all Nigerians, particularly community leaders, to step up and do their part to end polio."

"Because of the tremendous progress made in 2002, the polio eradication tactics and resources were shifted in 2003 to focus on just those few remaining countries which remained endemic," says Dr Bruce Aylward, WHO's global coordinator for the polio eradication initiative. "But the situation in Nigeria is now forcing us to go back to countries which had already eliminated polio."

Despite the apparent setback, epidemiologists are convinced polio can be eradicated from Nigeria. "Much of the country was already polio-free for over two years, including Lagos," says Dr. Walter Orenstein, director national immunization program at the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). "The challenge now is to increase the quality of polio campaigns in the key endemic areas of the Nigeria, and reach all children during activities."

RI President Jonathan Majiyagbe has pledged Rotary's continued support for efforts to wipe out polio. "Today, I call on the international community to urgently provide the necessary funds as quickly as possible — for the sake of the children across western Africa," he says.



Secretary's Announcements for Lunch Meeting on 05.11.2003

Meetings of the Service Committees

- Vocational Service Meeting will meet on **05.11.2003 (Wednesday)** at 2.00pm at Hotel Shangri La, Kuala Lumpur.

- New Generation Service meeting will meet on **11.11.2003 (Tuesday)** at 5.30pm at Hotel Shangri La, Kuala Lumpur.

- Club Service Meeting will meet on **18.11.2003 (Tuesday)** at 5.30pm at Hotel Shangri La, Kuala Lumpur.

Funnybones

1. A doctor and a lawyer were attending a cocktail party when the doctor was approached by a man who asked advice on how to handle his ulcer. The doctor mumbled some medical advice, then turned to the lawyer and asked, "How do you handle the situation when you are asked for advice during a social function?" "Just send an account for such advice" replied the lawyer.

On the next morning the doctor arrived at his surgery and issued the ulcer-stricken man a \$50 account. That afternoon he received a \$100 account from the lawyer.

2. A new client had just come in to see a famous lawyer. "Can you tell me how much you charge?", said the client. "Of course", the lawyer replied, "I charge \$200 to answer three questions!" "Well that's a bit steep, isn't it?" "Yes it is", said the lawyer, "And what's your third question?"

3. What's the difference between a good lawyer and a bad lawyer?

A bad lawyer can let a case drag out for several years. A good lawyer can make it last even longer.



This Week's Speaker: S.Sen Gupta

Topic: Matching Grants

Sen Gupta joined the Rotary Club of Gombak in 1976 and served as President in 1984/85. He is currently Chairman of the District Rotary Information Committee and Chairman of the Matching Grants Sub-Committee of the Rotary Foundation Committee. He also serves as Secretary of ROTAFOM.

Last Week's Speaker Report Back: Farland Chang

Topic: Building Your Reputation With Help From News Media

PP Frank Lim introduced the speaker, Mr Fahlan Cheng – ex-CNN correspondent – to the club. Fahlan spoke on a new dimension of media advertisement based on unique stories of products or service or business that viewers are likely to be attracted by. He demonstrated three scenarios on the TV; namely, Jollybees penetrating it's business into the US market and aiming to give McDonald's fierce competition; the introduction of the combat boot to the consumer market and the global promotion of Hong Kong to attract foreign tourists. Within a matter of 20 minutes, Fahlan effectively imparted his points across. PP Dato' Krish thanked the speaker and presented a certificate of appreciation to him on behalf of the club.



PP Frank Lim introduces the speaker



Mr Farland Chang being thanked by PP Krishnan



PP Jason Gan complementing Rtn Dr Kenneth Chin on the food



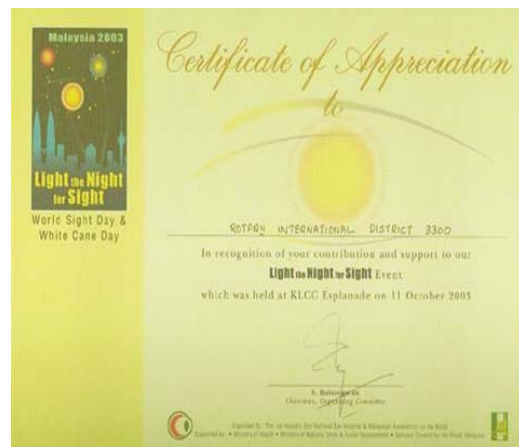
At the Presentation of RM2,068,303 cheque for the Abandoned Children's Home – PP Chan Kam Fatt, Mr Lim Teong Leong of Magnum Corporation, DG Dr Mahinder Singh and President Kanes



Donation of wheelchair to 90 year old Madam Daw Kye from Home for the Aged Poor, Little Sisters of the Poor, Yangon, Myanmar on Thursday, 16th October, 2003.



Rtn Rizal, PP Ramli, Rtn Dato Yusoff, PP Dato Zaman & PP Dato Hanif at the Ramadan non-launching table



Dato Hj Mustapha Ma, represented Governor at the Light the Night for Sight, World Sight Day & White Cane Day 2003 at KLCC on 11th October, 2003 received a Certificate of Appreciation.

Birthday Boys

Dato' Abdul Aziz bin A. Rahim on 05.11.2003

Rtn Abdul Jalil Jamil on 05.11.2003

Rtn Leow Poh Swee on 09.11.2003

Anns Birthdays

Monika Staks nee Rath Ann of H.E. Juergen A.R. Staks on 09.11.2003

Wedding Anniversaries

None



Focus on Rotary Foundation: Message from the Foundations Chairman

Education is a lifelong pursuit. We learn new things all the time, and if we are interested in our world we continue to learn. We can never learn enough about Rotary. Rotary is wonderfully diverse and complex. Rotary clubs in America are different from clubs in France, which are different from clubs in Korea and so on throughout the world. This amazing cultural diversity is one of our greatest strengths.

Education also means learning about our Rotary Foundation. One of the best things you can do as a Rotarian is to learn about - and participate in - the programs of The Rotary Foundation. Rotarians who know about the Foundation, who know about the good work accomplished through our Educational and Humanitarian Programs, are Rotarians who generously support the work of The Rotary Foundation and can educate other Rotarians about our Foundation.

So I encourage you to learn about The Rotary Foundation. There are many ways to do this:

1. Attend your club, district or zone Rotary Foundation Seminar
2. Serve on a Rotary Foundation committee, either at the club or district level
3. Read about The Rotary Foundation in our publications or on the RI Website
4. Volunteer to work on a Rotary Foundation international service project
5. Contact your Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator and district Rotary Foundation Committee -- ask them to share their knowledge and expertise with your club.

The more you learn about the Foundation, the more you will understand the difference we are making in people's lives. Rotarians, working with their Foundation, are making a profound impact every day. Whether it is the mother whose child is protected from polio, or the father whose disabled child can walk for the first time, or the young man who can see thanks to a cataract surgery, or the young woman who has been given a start in life thanks to a micro credit loan - all these and so many more are grateful to all that Rotarians are doing in the world.



Learn about the Foundation. Become a part of it. Share your knowledge with others. It will change your life.

James Lacy

The Rotary Foundation, Chairman 2003-04

Service Opportunities

Rotary is about Service, Service above Self. Here is the Menu of Service Opportunities approved by the RI board clubs are encouraged to engage with. In addition to the nine RI structured programs, the RI Board has approved a Menu of Service Opportunities — a list of issues and concerns that clubs are encouraged to give priority to when developing a service project.

When selecting projects, clubs are encouraged to address community development issues that are most critical in their communities. Developing a project that focuses on more than one of the service opportunities, or utilizes resources available through the structured programs and the grants available through The Rotary Foundation are recommended. Consider the service opportunities as a starting point for your community service activities.



The service opportunities include:

1. Children At Risk
2. Disabled Persons
3. Health Care
4. International Understanding & Goodwill
5. Literacy & Numeracy
6. Population Issues
7. Poverty & Hunger
8. Preserve Planet Earth
9. Urban Concerns

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