



## R.I.P.E.'s 4 EMPHASES

**By TIFFANY WOODS, SENIOR EDITOR OF "THE ROTARIAN"**

**(SUBMITTED BY PDG DATO' MUSTAPHA MA**

**VIA EMAIL ON 19TH FEBRUARY 2006)**

Rotary International's incoming president, William B. Boyd, will emphasize four familiar topics during the 2006-07 Rotary Year.

Boyd told incoming district governors at the International Assembly in San Diego, California, USA, on 17 February, his focus will be on water management, literacy, health and hunger, and the family of Rotary.

Every year at the assembly, Rotary's incoming president unveils emphases for the next Rotary year, which starts on 1 July. The current emphases under RI President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar are literacy, water, health and hunger concerns, and public image. Past RI presidents Jonathan B. Majiyagbe and Glenn E. Estess Sr. emphasized some of these issues, too. Over the years, clubs have carried out service projects related to these areas. They've helped tap wells, filter water, distribute dictionaries, educate teachers, equip schools, donate food, and provide medical treatment.

After Boyd announced his emphases, Stenhammar elaborated on them. Both see a link between literacy and water management. Stenhammar said the nongovernmental organization WaterAid found that in Tanzania, school attendance increased 12 percent when water was 15 minutes away rather than an hour. A World Bank study showed that school attendance in Bangladesh rose 15 percent when water-hauling time was reduced.

Stenhammar said 20 percent of the world's population does not have access to safe drinking water and he encouraged

Rotarians to look at water pollution's causes. "It's often the industries that are changing what Mother Nature has given us, thus creating polluted water," he said. "But also at home we can all think of this: My wife, Monica, has taught me never to put anything in our kitchen sink that we do not want in our kitchen garden. I see in many countries, television ads about chemicals to use to keep weeds out of our lawns or just to make them greener. These chemicals often contain poison, which after having fulfilled its mission, sinks down into the subsoil water - our future water supply."

As for literacy, that's a subject close to Boyd's heart, partly because he grew up in a family that owned a bookstore. Literacy, Boyd said, helps people escape poverty, empowers women, and enables communities to care for their water resources and address issues related to health and hunger.

With respect to the family of Rotary, Boyd said this includes Rotaractors, Interactors, Inner Wheel, alumni of The Rotary Foundation, Youth Exchange students, and family members of Rotarians. Boyd encouraged Rotarians to make it easier for members who are busy, young professionals with families to take part in clubs' activities. A formal dinner, for example, can mean time away from the children, a significant expense for the meal, and money for child care. Instead, he suggested a weekend barbecue, a picnic, or a service project that can involve the whole family.

"In the year ahead, I ask all of you to work to make our clubs welcoming to those of all ages and to remember the importance of our programs for youth," Boyd said. "These young people are our future."

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## Club Notices

**Visit by District Governor Ken Khoo, District 3300**

- The annual visit by the DG to our Club is confirmed as follows;
  - Date: 1st March 2006 (Wednesday)
  - Time: 12.30pm onwards
  - Venue: Regular weekly meeting lunch room, Shangri-la Hotel

**RC Makati 40th Charter Anniversary Celebrations**

- Our sister club RC Makati was chartered in 1966 and will thus be celebrating its 40th charter anniversary in March. Our club has been invited to participate in the celebration, and the tentative programme is as follows:
  - 08 March - Arrival and welcome dinner
  - 09 March - Visit to RC Makati's various community service projects
  - 10 March - Golf game (morning)
    - Anniversary ball (evening)
  - 11 March - Departure
- IS Director Horst announces that he would like to 'assemble a team' from our club to travel to Manila for what promises to be an excellent fellowship and high-class dinner event.
- Those interested, and especially those who have long-standing connections with RC Makati, please contact IS Director Horst so that planning can take place without too much delay.

**72nd RI District 3300 Assembly**

- The District Assembly is a platform that covers four days of training for Club Office bearers and Rotarians.
- DGE Dato' Jimmy Lim from our Club will be hosting this event. Let's attend in strength to support him and be proud of our home-grown DG for 2006-07:
  - Date: 6th to 9th April 2006 (Thursday-Sunday)
  - Venue: Holiday Villa Hotel, Subang
  - Thursday-Friday (6th-7th April): Training for in-coming Club Presidents, Secretaries & Treasurers.
  - Saturday-Sunday (8th - 9th April): All other Office Bearers & Rotarians.

## Birthday Boys

This meeting saw an upward trending line for Pres. Low from a birthday collections point-of-view. He managed to call on 2 Rotarians for whom the gathered members could sing their Birthday Song. So we all sang lustily for PDG Mahinder Singh and Rtn Rizal Sardon.

*Right: PDG Mahinder & Rtn Rizal sharing the knife in cake mutilation*



## Weekly Proceedings On 15.2.2006

**Meeting Convenor:** PP Stuart Pack  
**National Anthem & Royal Toast:** Rtn Jalil  
**Welcoming Guests:** Rtn Justin Teoh  
**Speaker Introduction:** PP Kulasegaran  
**Speaker:** H.E. L. Narayan, the High Commissioner of India  
**Speaker thanks:** Rtn Reiner Allgeier

**Distinguished Guests:**  
 - H.E. L. Narayan, the High Commissioner of India.

**Visiting Rotarians:**  
 - PDG Paul Osimo, from the Rotary Club of Hevertown, USA.  
 - PP Peter Holzer, from the Rotary Club of Balsthal, Switzerland.  
 - PP C. Kanagalingam, Rotary Club of Kuantan.  
 - Rtn Elizabeth Yam, Rotary Club of Kelana Jaya.  
 - Rtn Patrick Ang, Rotary Club of Port Klang.



PDG Paul Osimo sharing his views on our CNY dinner

**Visiting Guests:**  
 - Mr. Ng Hock Boon, guest of PP Jason Gan.  
 - Mr. Paul Harris, guest of Rtn Paul Ravelli.  
 - En. Wan Rasul, guest of Rtn Halim Yusoff.

## A BRIEF ON INDIA

By H.E. L. Narayan, the High Commissioner of India  
 (Speaker for the previous week's lunch meeting)



H.E. leading off his talk with a few congenial jokes



Getting in depth on India's data and business stats



Rtn Reiner thanking H.E. on behalf of the Club

PP Kulasegaran introduced H.E. and also announced the good news of H.E.'s interest to apply for membership in our Club. This was met with a round of appreciative claps from the floor.

H.E. Narayan then regaled members with some light introductory jokes. After which he went on to provide very useful and enlightening statistics and insights into Malaysia-India trade and bilateral relations. The members were very interested and asked several pertinent questions after the talk was concluded to loud applause.

## FROM THE DESKTOP OF A ROTARIAN GEMS FROM THE WEB

Everyone is BUSY these days. No one has time enough to do everything they want to do. So some things take priority and others get sacrificed or delayed to oblivion. However, do we always get it right in choosing what the important things to do are? Do we delay the right trivial stuff or do we "sweat the small stuff"?

Although we hear that the most important parts of life are Family, Friends, Faith (of some sort or at least the belief in Good) and Charity (to help others who are less fortunate than one's self), often these are sadly the components that get pushed aside. Somehow, we rationalize that strangers will not wait, customers are "King", business partners depend on us...but Family will understand, Friends will forgive if they are true Friends, God (or whichever Being we pray to) can wait as God is eternal anyway, and there's always time later for Charity.

At these times of making such decisions, we forget that we ourselves may not have the "Time" in the future. We forget that we are not immortal and that we do not have a guarantee in life to live just one more day to do it right. So we spend our precious time on the "small stuff" and push back the really important parts of our lives.

Aptly, someone sent me a story some while back. It is a

little contrived as a parable goes, but I suppose all parables sound kind of manipulated anyway. But we can still learn from the philosophy which underlies the story. Hence I sought it out from the Internet and adapted it a little to be more global in its message.

Then coincidentally, I remembered Rtn Lokman's Chinese New Year wishes which came with a family-oriented story. This ties so well into the parable that the 2 seem to go together like coffee and cheesecake.

So I hope you will read both and enjoy...

### **Are You Too BUSY?**

**(Sourced and adapted from**

**<http://inspirationalmail.com/priorities/busy.htm>)**

Satan called a worldwide convention. In his opening address to his evil angels, he said, "We doing a terrible job at keeping the People from going over to the side of Goodness & God. We can't keep them from reading their Holy Books or Moral Scriptures and knowing the truth about Goodness. We can't even keep them from forming an intimate, abiding relationship experience with their Chosen God. If they gain that connection with Goodness & God, our power over them is broken.

So let them go to their churches, temples & mosques, let them have their conservative lifestyles, but steal their time, so they can't gain that relationship with the side of Good. This is what I want you to do, angels. Distract them from gaining hold of their Savior and maintaining that vital connection throughout their day!"

"How shall we do this?" shouted his angels.

"Keep them busy in the non-essentials of life and invent enumerable schemes to occupy their minds," he answered.

"Tempt them to spend, spend, spend, and borrow, borrow, borrow. Persuade the wives to go to work for long hours and the husbands to work 6 to 7 days a week, 10-12 hours a day, so they can afford their empty materialistic lifestyles. Keep them from spending time with their children. As their family fragments, soon, their home will offer no escape from the pressures of work!"

"Over-stimulate their minds so that they cannot hear that still, small voice of Conscience and Goodness. Entice them to play the radio or CD player whenever they drive. To keep the TV, VCR, CDs and their PCs going constantly in their homes. And see to it that every store and restaurant in the world plays anti-social music constantly. This will jam their minds and break that union with the side of Good."

"Fill the coffee table with magazines and newspapers. Pound their minds with the news 24 hours a day. Invade their driving moments with billboards. Flood their mailboxes with junk mail, mail order catalogues, sweepstakes, and every kind of newsletter and promotional offering free products, services, and false hopes. Keep skinny, beautiful models on the magazines so the husbands will believe that external beauty is what's important, and they'll become dissatisfied with their wives. The wives will be obsessed with spending time at

slimming centers and beauty parlors to strive for unattainable outer beauty while their inner Good withers away and their family bonds shrivel away. Ha, ha! That will fragment those families quickly!"

"Even in their recreation, let them be excessive. Have them return from their recreation exhausted, disquieted, and unprepared for the coming week. Don't let them go out in nature to reflect on wonders of doing Good or being Good. Send them to amusement parks, sporting events, concerts and movies instead. Keep them busy, busy, busy!! And when they meet for spiritual or social fellowship, involve them in gossip and small talk so that they leave with troubled consciences and unsettled emotion. Divide and conquer."

"Go ahead; let them be involved in soul winning. But crowd their lives with so many distracting causes they have no time to seek power from Goodness & God. Soon they will be working in their own strength, sacrificing their health and family for the sake of their false causes. It will work! It will work!"

It was quite a convention. And the evil angels went eagerly to their assignments causing Good People everywhere to get busy, busy, busy, and to rush here and there aimlessly.

I guess the question is: has the devil been successful at his scheme? You be the judge! Friends, this message was sent to me by someone who cares and I thought I could share it with you. Please take heed of the message it brings:

B - Being  
U - Under  
S - Satan's  
Y - Yoke

Are you too BUSY?

## A BEAUTIFUL STORY

**(Author unknown, submitted by Rtn Lokman Sardon via email on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2006)**

After 21 years of marriage, my wife wanted me to take another woman out to dinner and a movie. She said I love you but I know this other woman loves you and would love to spend some time with you.

The other woman that my wife wanted me to visit was my MOTHER, who has been a widow for 19 years, but the demands of my work and my three children had made it possible to visit her only occasionally.

That night I called to invite her to go out for dinner and a movie. "What's wrong, are you well," she asked? My mother is the type of woman who suspects that a late night call or a surprise invitation is a sign of bad news.

"I thought that it would be pleasant with you," I responded, "Just the two of us."

She thought about it for a moment, and then said, "I would like that very much."

That Friday after work, as I drove over to pick her up I was a bit nervous. When I arrived at her house, I noticed that she, too, seemed to be nervous about our date. She waited in the door with her coat on. She had curled her hair and was wearing the dress that she had worn to celebrate her last wedding anniversary.

She smiled from a face that was as radiant as an angel's. "I told my friends that I was going to go out with my son, and they were impressed," she said, as she got into the car. "They can't wait to hear about our meeting".

We went to a restaurant that, although not elegant, was very nice and cozy. My mother took my arm as if she were the First Lady. After we sat down, I had to read the menu. Half way through the entries, I lifted my eyes and saw Mom sitting there staring at me. A nostalgic smile was on her lips...

"It was I who used to have to read the menu when you were small," she said.

"Then it's time that you relax and let me return the favor," I responded.

During the dinner, we had an agreeable conversation - nothing extraordinary, but catching up on recent events of each other's life. We talked so much that we missed the movie.

As we arrived at her house later, she said, "I'll go out with you again, but only if you let me invite you." I agreed.

"How was your dinner date?" asked my wife when I got home, "Very nice. Much more so than I could have imagined," I answered.

A few days later, my mother died of a massive heart attack. It happened so suddenly that I did not do anything else for her.

Some time later, I received an envelope with a copy of a restaurant receipt from the same place mother and I had dined.

An attached note said: "I paid this bill in advance. I wasn't sure that I could be there; but nevertheless, I paid for two plates - one for you and the other for your wife. You will never know what that night meant for me. I love you, son."

At that moment, I understood the importance of saying in time: "I LOVE YOU!" and to give our loved ones the time that they deserve. Nothing in life is more important than your family. Give them the time they deserve, because these things cannot be put off till "some other time."

Hope that this Chinese New Year we can spend more time with our family. Do not hesitate to do things that need to be done; do not hesitate to help people that are in need of our help; do forgive the people that did wrong to us.

## **The Lighter Side – Little Johnny versus President Bush**

*(Submitted by Rtn Lokman Sardon via email on 4th February 2006)*

President Bush was visiting a primary school and he visited one of the classes. They were in the middle of a discussion related to words and their meanings.

The teacher asked the President if he would like to lead the discussion on the word "tragedy". So the illustrious leader asked the class for an example of a "tragedy".

One little boy stood up and offered: "If my best friend, who lives on a farm, is playing in the field and a tractor runs over him and kills him; that would be a tragedy".

"No," said Bush, "that would be an accident."

A little girl raised her hand: "If a school bus carrying 50 children drove over a cliff, killing everyone inside, that would be a tragedy."

"I'm afraid not," explained the president. "That's what we would call a great loss."

The room went silent. No other children volunteered.

Bush searched the room. "Isn't there someone here who can give me an example of a tragedy?"

Finally at the back of the room little Johnny raised his hand.

In a quiet voice he said: "If Air Force One carrying you and Mrs. Bush was struck by a friendly fire missile and blown to smithereens, that would be a tragedy."

"Fantastic!" exclaimed Bush. "That's right. And can you tell me why that would be a tragedy?"

"Well," said the boy, "It has to be a tragedy, because it certainly wouldn't be a great loss and it probably wouldn't be any accident either".

**The Lighter Side – A Sausage Story**  
(Submitted by Rtn Rizal Sardon via email on 18th February 2006)

Larry and Bob wanted to go out drinking, but they only had \$2.00 between them.

Larry said, "Hang on, I have an idea!" He went next door to the butcher's shop and spent the \$2.00 on one large sausage.

Bob said, "Are you crazy? Now we don't have any money left at all!"

Larry replied, "Don't worry - just follow me."

They went into the pub where Larry immediately ordered two double shots of Jack Daniels.

Bob said, "Now you've lost it! Do you know how much trouble we will be in? We haven't got any money to pay for this!" Larry replied, with a smile, "Don't worry - I have a plan. Cheers!"

They downed their drinks.

Larry said "OK! I'll stick the sausage through my zipper and you get on your knees and put it in your mouth."

Said and done, the barman noticed them, went berserk, and threw them out. They continued this, bar after bar, getting more and more drunk, all for free.

At the tenth bar, Bob said, "Larry - I don't think I can do this anymore. My mouth is sore and my knees are killing me!" Larry said, "How do you think I feel? I lost the sausage after the third pub."

## Upcoming Events & Fellowship Activities

- Interact Leadership Training Seminar (ILTS) 2006 Annual training event hosted by our Club's Service to New Generations for all the 9 Interact and 3 Youthact Clubs under our sponsorship. All instructors & workshop facilitators are members of our Club, with support provided by Rotaract Club of Kuala Lumpur. We expect up to 250 students to attend from various schools so please participate by volunteering to be a workshop facilitator.

Date: 25th February 2006 (Saturday)  
Time: 8.30am to 4.30pm (lunch and tea breaks provided)  
Venue: Sekolah Sri Garden's Hall, Jln Pria, Tmn Maluri, KL  
Organizer: Rtn Justin Teoh (all members are encouraged to attend)

- **3rd Club Assembly & DG Fellowship Night**  
**This event coincides with the Club visit by DG Ken Khoo.**

Date: 28th February 2006 (Tuesday)  
Time: 6pm onwards (dinner starts at 8pm)  
Venue: Maju Palace, Maju Junction, Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman  
Cost: RM60.00 per person (all spouses are welcome)  
Organizer: Rtn Steve Lau (RSVP by 20th February)

- **Next Club Golf Fellowship Following the successful organization of the previous 2 golf events, Fellowship Director Rtn Steve Lau is now planning the next occasion**

Date: 18th March 2006 (tentative TBC)  
Venue: KGPA, Jalan Damansara & Jalan Bukit Kiara Junction (TBC)  
Organizers: Rtn Steve Lau & Rtn Andy Khoo  
Attire: Golf wear

## Lunch Time Speakers

**This was the last update received from Rtn Reiner Allgeier's via email about what's in store for the next few weeks ...**

- 22.02.2006 – Rosanna Allgeier, former RotEx student, Topic: World Understanding Through Youth, Introduction by Rtn Allgeier
- 01.03.2006 – Visit of the DG (no speaker)
- 08.03.2006 – Rainer Herret, Executive Director of MGCC  
Topic: Bilateral business relations btwn Malaysia & Germany  
Member - no introduction
- 15.03.2006 – Tan Sri Dato' Ernest Zulliger, Chairman Asian Business Solutions  
Topic: Making value creation a core competency  
Introduction by Rtn Reiner Allgeier
- 22.03.2006 – H.E. Tierry Rommel, Ambassador European Union  
Topic: The role of the EU in Malaysia  
Introduction: TBC
- 29.03.2006 – Dato' Abdul Kadir Bohd Deen, Director Halim Mazmin Berhad & former Ambassador to Germany  
Topic: TBA, Introduction by Rtn Reiner Allgeier

## Avenues-Of-Service Meeting Schedule

Meeting Name	Chair Person	When (every month)	Time
Board of Directors	President Low	1st Tuesday	6pm
International Service	Horst Wippern	2nd Wednesday	2pm
Vocational Service	Thomas Varughese	16th February	7pm, RSC Bkt Kiara
Club Service	Choy Hon Nang	3rd Wednesday	2pm
Fellowship Service	Steve Lau	3rd Wednesday	2pm
Community Service	Francis Chan	4th Wednesday	2pm
New Generations Service	Justin Teoh	4th Wednesday	2pm

## The Rotary Club Of Kuala Lumpur DiRaja

We meet at 12:30pm every Wednesday  
at The Shangri La Hotel, Jalan Sultan Ismail, Kuala Lumpur.

# Service Above Self