



POOR ATTENDANCE CONTINUES UNCHECKED THE NEVER-ENDING STORY...

(YTD Q3 data provided by Attendance Chairman Rtn Hardeep Singh)

The long-awaited attendance update finally reached this editor's desk. After the pathetic performance in Club members' attendance at weekly meetings and activities was high-lighted in the Q1 report (provided for July-September 2005), this editor hoped to see some improvements in that arena.

Unfortunately, this was not to be...

As reported, this time around, the data compiled till March 2006 for the first 9 months of RY2005-06, ended up with only 60 members (out of 104, actually there is some debate as our Treasurer & Attendance Chairman have different numbers for the Club size) meeting the minimum of 60% of attendance, at our Club's activities and including reported make-ups factored in.

Let us drill down...

Wow – fully 20 members very pathetically turned up to make less than 30% of attendance! This horrific record of "poorest attendees" includes 5 Past Presidents who have come to 29% and less of our meetings this year to date. The worst performers in this elite group have attended only 2 meetings this whole period of 9 months (including recorded make-ups).

Okay, the picture gets worse (and not better) as another 24 members attended from 30% to 59% of our required meetings this Rotary Year. Again this august list of "poor attendees" includes 3 Past Presidents. What a wonderful example set on how to "Lead The Way"!

Anyway, instead of being negative, perhaps this editor should congratulate those who manage to remain in the "100% level" of attendance. These folks who have made the effort to be

either at all weekly meetings or provide acceptable recorded make-ups are (in alphabetical order):

- PDG Dato' Beh Lye Huat
- Hon. Sec. Rtn Freddy Chan
- PP Dato' G.S. Gill
- Andy Khoo (blush...so I had to attend to write the bulletin – I admit it!)
- PP Dato' Koay Soon Eng
- Fellowship Director Rtn Steve Lau Keng Lim
- Rtn Leong Lik Thong
- PP Lim Eng Ho
- President Low Kok Hwan
- Rtn Mohd. Nor Halim
- PDG Dato' Mustapha Ma
- PP Stuart Pack
- PE David Lim
- New Generations Director Rtn Justin Teoh
- International Service Director Rtn Horst Wippem

Congratulations and thanks to these 15 who attend regularly to meet this lofty attendance achievement! However, the editor remains curious that he is sure he seldom sees at least one of those 15 names in the weekly lunch meetings, so is it all just make-ups? I thought the attendance rule was that at least half of 60% minimum attendance should be at one's Home Club. Hmm...must check with Rtn Hardeep on this...

Btw, when can we expect the Club to take action against the persistent offenders? Hopefully not when this editor has grandchildren! Please turn to the "Desktop of a Rotarian" for more ranting and raving on poor attendance and other shameless RINOs.

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Duli Yang Maha Mulia
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Club Notices

Update Your Member Profiles

The Club would like all members to review and update your details (like spouse name, contact info, classifications, etc.) for RY2006-07.

- Rtn Steve Lau is managing this exercise in preparation for the new Club Directory in the coming Year.

- Additionally Rtn Horst (assisted by the editor) will be reviewing online details for President Low to determine accuracy and track down why some members are not getting their benefits (like the monthly distribution of The Rotarian magazine).

- So please update the respective Rotarians who are managing this exercise if your details have changed or if you are not getting your materials from RI.

Sister Clubs - Installation Dates (Updated in Chronological Order)

- 04 June 2006 - RC Taipei Southgate (Pres. Charles Chai)
- 26 June 2006 - RC Crows Nest (Pres. Phillipa Palmer)
- 29 June 2006 - RC Bangkok (Pres. Ateeb Maskati)
- 01 July 2006 - RC Singapore (Pres. Stanley Low)
- 07 July 2006 - RC Phuket (Pres. Sakchai Chowwai)
- 14 July 2006 - RC Makati (Pres. Conrad Marty)
- 28 July 2006 - RC Raffles City (Pres. Sami Mindani)

Watch this space for further updates as they become available.

RC HatYai Nakarin - no information available

RC Seoul East - no information available

Birthday Boys

Pres. Low did not have any luck calling on anyone to come to the front for his birthday song this week. So the cake was sadly untouched...

Right : Look what you've missed if you don't come for your Birthday



Weekly Proceedings On 19.4.2006

Meeting Convenor: PP Lim Eng Ho
National Anthem & Royal Toast: Rtn Dato' Victor Lim
Welcoming Guests: Rtn Hardeep Singh
Speaker Introduction: Rtn Reiner Allgeier
Speaker: H.E. Tierry Rommel - Ambassador European Union
Speaker thanks: PP A. Kanesalingam

Distinguished Guest:
 - H.E. Tierry Rommel - Ambassador European Union (Rotary Club of Brussels)

Visiting Rotarians:
 - A.G. Lim Kok Beng, RC Gombak.
 - 12th April – Rotarian Sumedha Rao, RC Mumbai, India (District 3140).

Visiting Guest:
 - Datuk Bobby Lim, guest of PP Frank Lee Fu Leong.
 - 12th April – En. Muzaffar, guest of PDG Dr. Mahinder



Congrats – Rtn Zed Cama received PHF honors from Pres. Low

THE ROLE OF THE E.U. IN MALAYSIA

By H.E. Tierry Rommel - Ambassador European Union
 (Speaker for the past week's lunch meeting)

This was really an Embassy with a difference. Principally because the Ambassador, H.E. Rommel represented not any one country but a whole region comprised of many countries in a common union.

H.E. took great pains to explain why his charter is very different from that of the Ambassador of any other European nation (such as the role of H.E. Jess for Germany). He enlightened our Club members on how he had to focus on regional policies and promote regional interests above and beyond that of any one member nation in the E.U.



H.E. Rommel explained the E.U. embassy's role



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Our members were very interested to understand what are the pluses and minuses of trading off some sovereign control by countries in the E.U. versus the benefits of integration brought about by the solidarity of economic, political and social policies.

After several keenly asked questions from the floor, PP Kaness got up to proffer thanks to H.E. on behalf of the Club.



PP Kaness presented the Club's Thank You gifts

FROM THE DESKTOP OF A ROTARIAN GEMS FROM THE WEB ON VARIOUS TYPES OF RINOS (AND I DO NOT MEAN THE ANIMAL)...

On 23rd April, PDG Dato' Mus sent me this blurb over email...

"Today, someone taught me a new terminology: TIGER.

'TIGER' ... it means True, Interested, Genuine, Energetic Rotarian... Just like the characteristics of the tiger... ever ready to pounce on service projects.

Of course you know 'RINO': apparently to mean 'Rotarian In Name Only'.

Be a tiger in your club!

'TIGER' also stands for 'Total Involvement Generates Excellent Results', which means for Rotary, let's not do things halfway. Let's not regard Rotary as 'just a voluntary work' and come up with slipshod projects. It is either you do it properly or better don't. We are supposed to be Professionals. It is not only Rotary's image at stake, but also our own as professionals in our fields."

So along the same vein, the picture has not improved, eh? As reported, this time around, the data compiled showed only 60 members (out of 104) meeting the minimum of 60% of attendance, at our Club's activities and including reported make-ups factored in.

So if we accept Rtn Hardeep Singh's attendance report as gospel, then from an attendance perspective, our Club can sadly be accused of having 44 "Rotarians In Name Only" or RINOs who fail to meet the 60% attendance rule.

Let me digress briefly at this point...

However, Rtn Hardeep declared that his data is ONLY as good as members make it. In other words, while he has faithfully included all the make-ups he received, he cannot do so if members fail to report those make-up sessions.

For example, he explained that:

- 1) There are members waltz into weekly lunch meetings and forget to register their attendance. Some others suggested the Attendance Chairman should chase around to get these names in the book – I am not personally sure if this is the right thing to do. After all, we are all adults, and cannot claim ignorance of the need to register. So if there are those who do not care to register, then perhaps they do not care to have their attendance calculated correctly. Do not foist everything on the broad shoulders of our badly-harassed Rtn Hardeep.
- 2) Then there are those who go overseas and attend other Clubs' meetings but fail to report this or submit their make-up cards supplied by the other Rotary Clubs.
- 3) Lastly, there are those who attend our Club's own committee or District meetings, but...
 - a) Fail to note their names on the attendance list, or
 - b) Fail to notify Rtn Hardeep or
 - c) In some cases where the Service Director forgets to provide the attendance list to him, then obviously Rtn Hardeep cannot count what he does not get.

Face it, folks, much as we respect Rtn Hardeep for his economic forecasting skills, he is NOT clairvoyant (I do not care even if he does always wear an impressive turban, I declare that he has never claimed publicly to be psychic or psycho)! So if you do not tell him, he cannot add in your make-ups, no matter who you are – PDG, PP or ordinary member. However Rtn Hardeep has kindly offered that for members who think they are not fairly toted up in his accounting of attendance; please see him to explain why you think your attendance should be higher than in his current database. So folks, please check with Rtn Hardeep if you are interested.

Coming back to our sad attendance numbers...

Anyway by my trusty Casio calculator, this accounts for 58% of members (60/104) who actually meet the minimum attendance criteria. In other words, if we take the most radical view that all those who do not meet the 60% attendance rule have self-elected to resign from the Club, it means that we actually have a Club of only 60 qualified members. Okay, this is only if we assume the data is absolutely accurate and we are singling out the "Poor Attendance RINOs".

Now, keep in mind, I stated "most radical view" as Rotary is NOT just about attendance. Of course, the principal focus of Rotary is "Service Above Self". So there are other measurements to use beyond just or to mitigate pure attendance as the criteria for member retention or attrition. However the worst offence, in this humble editor's view at least, is to neglect any efforts to contribute to "Service Above Self" AND also fail in meeting attendance obligations at the same time.

Wait a minute; this does NOT absolve other types of RINOs (Rotarians In Name Only). So let's look at some other types of RINOs.

We have some Club members who think that just because they attend lunch meetings and social get-to-gathers

(preferably free ones, hence the term "Free-Loaders"), they are solid Rotarians. Often times, these self-interested networkers only care to meet more folks and promote themselves or their businesses. President Low this year, particularly fumes at these "fake Rotarians" if I may coin a phrase. The common modus operandi of this "Free-Loader RINO" is to meet minimum attendance expectations and flock to any free events with good food and drink. Once this type of RINO hears that an event has a fee (for charity collection or cost recovery purposes), then conveniently, this RINO is too busy or out-of-town and suddenly cannot attend. What a con...!

Another pathetic behavior instinct of this "Free-Loader RINO" is that he never puts out more than he can avoid, not just in cash but also in his contribution of any tangible effort. So if the hat is passed around for charity, for EREY, he is conspicuously quiet. If the call goes out for helpers to participate in a charity or organize Club event, this type of RINO again never puts up his hand voluntarily. Even when approached, the excuses for why they cannot be involved will flow creatively from such members. Obviously, such "Free-Loader RINOs" have never heard the age-old saying, "Mau Seribu Daya, Tak Mau Seribu Dalih".

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

Did you know that at 8:02pm on 20th February 2002, the numbers stacked up to show 20:02, 20-02-2002? My daughter was born at 7:46pm on that date, so she just missed the magical number by 16 minutes – if only she had waited... Ha...ha...

Think about this one...

Next month, (on Thursday, 4th of May) at two minutes and three seconds after 1:00 AM in the morning, the time and date will be

01:02:03 04/05/06

This won't ever happen again in our lifetime...

Upcoming Events & Fellowship Activities

Interact Clubs' International Understanding Day

- Service to New Generations Director Rtn Justin requests Club members to attend and support our sponsored Interact Clubs. Some of these Clubs are having their I.U. Day soon and would appreciate our participation as guests.
- Wesley Methodist School
 - Date : Saturday 29th April 2006
 - Time : 9.00 a.m.
- Sekolah Sri Bintang Utara
 - Date : Saturday 29th April 2006
 - Time : 2.30 p.m.

Sister Club Agreement with RC Phuket – Trip to Phuket

- The International Service Committee has proposed, and the Board has approved, that our club sign a Sister Club Agreement with Rotary Club of Phuket (District 3330). The trip will be led by Pres. Low.
- URGENT – All inquiries & confirmations to Rtn Horst, IS Director (ASAP due to the need to make reservations).
- Travel & Accommodation:
 - 6th May: Fly Kuala Lumpur – Phuket
 - 9th May: Fly Phuket – Kuala Lumpur
 - Ticket cost approx. RM 343.00 (AirAsia)
 - Hotel accommodation Bht 1,500.00 per night
- Program:
 - Joint meeting RC Phuket / RC KL
 - Signing of Sister Club Agreement
 - Golf – TBC @ famous Blue Canyon (Bht 3,700.00 per player)
 - Joint visit to a community service project & shopping

• **Next Club Golf Fellowship. This has been delayed due to requests to have it on a weekend. Fellowship Director Rtn Steve Lau is now rescheduling this next occasion.**

Date: TBC
Venue: TBC
Organizers: Rtn Steve Lau
Attire: Golf wear

RC Cyberjaya Centennial Invite (by email)

- We, at RC Cyberjaya Centennial wish to take a leaf from the Assembly and continue promoting the interaction between Clubs. The development of acquaintances between Members of neighbouring Clubs will be an opportunity for service. In the midst will be the advancement of goodwill and fellowship, beneficial to all concerned. The goal is to enliven the social atmosphere of our Club and thereby an exchange of occupational expertise for visiting Rotarians.
- Towards this, we invite fellow Rotarians to our weekly meetings every Monday. Make-up at no cost, refreshment served. No venue charges, no meeting charges, no meal charges. This is our Club Service Project for the betterment of our Rotary Community.

- Details as follows:-
 - Club: Rotary Club Cyberjaya Centennial
 - Days: Every Mondays (except 5th)
 - Mtg Time: 5:30pm fellowship ; 6:00pm Meeting
 - Mtg end: 7:00pm
 - Venue: MSC Innovation Centre, Cyberjaya
 - Charge: Nil (refreshment served)

- Welcome All!

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 ...

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 26.04.2006 - Sharon Low - Founder and MD of StemLife Sdn Bhd
Topic: The Healing Power of Stem Cells
Introduction by: PP Stuart Pack
 • 03.05.2006 - Alex Arokiam - National Office for Human Development
Topic: Welcome Community Home's Services
Introduction: Dato Victor Lim
 • 10.05.2006 - Lila Barok - Chief Editor of the Edge
Topic: TBA
Introduction: TBA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 17.05.2006 - Mdm Ella Caescandon, wife of Ambassador of Colombia
Topic: TBA
Introduction by myself
 • 24.05.2006 - Dr. Adeeba
Topic: TBA
Introduction by PP William Lau
 • 31.05.2006 - Marina Tsuboshi - Club's Japanese exchange student
Topic: TBA
Introduction: Justin Teoh |
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Avenues Of Service Meeting Schedule

Meeting Name	Chair Person	When (every month)	Time
Board of Directors	President Low	1st Tuesday	6pm
International Service	Horst Wippem	2nd Wednesday	2pm
Vocational Service	Thomas Varughese	TBC	TBC
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