



VOICE

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FOR MEMBERS ONLY

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TYPHOON DISASTER IN THE PHILIPPINES – our club’s response

On Sunday, September 27 2009, Typhoon Ketsana struck the main island of Luzon in the Philippines. The storm had caused extreme flooding in Manila, and the death toll reported as of 24th October 2009 was at least 464 people, with thousands of others stranded by the waters. Flood water reached a record high of 20 feet some in rural areas.



The storm had caused extreme flooding in Manila



At our weekly meeting on 7th October 2009, a collection was made from our members to provide immediate relief assistance to the disaster-stricken Filipinos through the Typhoon Relief Operations undertaken by our sister-club, RC Downtown Manila. The final sum collected was S\$2,700. PP Wong Kwai Wah handed the sum over to President Lucenito N Tagle in Manila on 31 October, 2009 on behalf of our Club.



PP Kwai Wah handing over the donation to President Lucenito at their meeting

CONGRATULATIONS TO IPP JACK H.Y. TAN



We extend our heartiest congratulations to our IPP Jack Tan for the successful opening of his 2nd Yum Cha Restaurant on 21st November 2009. This beautifully designed restaurant is located in the Annex Building of Serangoon Gardens Country Club at 22 Kensington Park Road, and is appropriately named ‘Yum Cha Garden’. The original restaurant located at 20 Trengganu Street is now known as ‘Yum Cha Chinatown’.

The grand opening at 10am was an auspicious occasion attended by many invited guests. RC Changi members were treated to a special lunch. A beautiful array of flowers with congratulatory best wishes from close friends and business associates, including one from RCC, filled the entrance foyer of the SGCC annex building with spectacular colours. This event was also high-lighted by a lion dance to bring good luck and fortune to the business.



An array of colourful flowers decorated the entrance of SGCC Annex



**Jack & Ailene
The Restaurateurs**



Yum Cha Garden Restaurant

FILM ANIMATION

Recently. Mr Ng Khoon Chuan, better known as Kun Quan (KQ) in the film industry, won the "Best Animation Program" award at the Taiwan Golden TV Awards • • Ž for my TV movie "LaMB." At our meeting on 4 November 2009, he shared with us his journey that led to the culmination of this highlight in his career.

Rtn Kelly Anne Frendo

KUN QUAN (KQ) (in photo) outlined the start of his career as a TV director, later realizing that he also needed to become a producer in order to better fulfill his passion and ambition through engaging the business side of his profession.



Seeing himself as a storyteller using digital tools, KQ went on to produce animation for SONY PICTURES, and also live-action videos for other well known names such as Red Bull and Changi Airport. He also directed the popular Chinese TV program "Taoshu and Friends" in Singapore.

The ability to use digital tools allows ambitious young people such as himself to achieve far more than a traditional storyteller, allowing a story to be told in many ways, and providing more means for interaction between the storyteller and his audience.

As a young man, KQ was full of ambition and innocence - and wanted to change the world - but his recent High-Def Animation movie titled "LaMB" shows that he understands all too well that power and control breed the risk of corruption. "LaMB" is a science-fiction animation based on the concept of laminating criminals with nano-technology in order to control their actions, thus recycling these criminals as human resources in order to put them to better use in the community rather than shutting them away in prison. "LaMB" successfully broadcast in over 20 countries across Asia via Sony Pictures' animation cable channel ANIMAX and recently won "Best Animation Program" at the 2009 Taiwan Golden Bell TV Awards.

While explaining that there are stories in everything, KQ used the example of an iPod. The story of Apple's iPod is that it provides you with your own emotional personal space - your music can follow you anywhere you go. The ability to see a story in objects and events that happen around us, and the skill to narrate this story to others (regardless of the audience level), is surely the mark of a good storyteller, and that ability was instantly seen in KQ during his talk.

Introducing his audience to conceptions of 3D (like how it can be applied to Sports Medicine and other related fields), KQ highlighted the educational aspect of 3D animation, showing the ease of e-learning through technology, with Taoshu a product designed for interactive learning of the Chinese language. He also summarized the development process used for this type of animation. One of his recent projects "LaMB REDUX" (a web version of the previously

mentioned animation movie), targets YouTube-watching teenagers, and is expected to reach an estimated 44 million viewers from Asia to Latin America.



Taoshu - a product of interactive e-learning of the Chinese language through technology

A good TV producer must be a great communicator on all levels, with the ability to find new stories and interesting ways of telling them, and KQ certainly conveyed his excellent skills and true enthusiasm for "Film Production and Animation" in his talk to the Rotary Club of Changi, where the audience mostly consisted of "digital immigrants" (people who were introduced to the digital age of technology later on in their life).

As a younger member who was introduced to technology earlier on in life (a mix of "digital native" and "digital immigrant"), and from a technical background, I found KQ's talk immensely interesting and was especially impacted by his recommendation that we should all see ourselves as storytellers in our own way - both in our personal and business lives.



Kelly presenting KQ with a memento after thanking him for the "immensely interesting talk"

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

Rtn Sue Bastone

Wednesday 18th Nov. saw us enjoying a very interesting talk by the DG elect Dr K A Abraham (in photo) about the Rotary Foundation and what happens to the money we donate to Rotary.



There are 33,000 clubs worldwide with a total membership of 1.2 million members. The Rotary Foundation at present has a balance of \$800 million. The aim for the year '09 -'10 is to raise an additional \$96 million. This foundation started with a small donation from Paul Harris as an endowment to do good in the world, advance world understanding, goodwill and peace.

If we look at what Rotary has done with it's funds the outstanding program has been the eradication of

polio. When the fund first started there was polio in 125 countries. It has now been reduced to only 4 countries. When people in the future talk about the former disease “polio” there will be 3 names that will be spoken of as the people responsible for the successful eradication Salk, Sabin and Rotary.



**Power of a Story-
POLIOPLUS**

Other projects have been the supply of clean water to 1 billion people in the last 14 years, plus the very successful shelter box program for disaster relief. If every Rotarian donated US\$100 to the Rotary Foundation as is the aim there is much that can be done with this amount. US\$100 will provide 3 prosthesis, school supplies for 15 primary students, 4 cataract operations and the fees for 1 senior student for 1 year in China.

The amazing fact is while 20% of Rotary Clubs are not giving to APF preferring to specify where their contributions go, 57,190 Rotarians became Paul Harris fellows in 07-08 and that fund has now got assets of \$114.8 million dollars.....certainly enough to “do good in the world”

MOTOR INSURANCE CLAIMS

Rtn Sue Bastone

PP Anthony Tan, Managing Director of EQ Insurance spoke to us at our meeting on 25 November 2009 on 'Motor Insurance Claims'. This is a great subject for a talk as most of us at one time or other have needed to do this either for ourselves or our children.



PP Anthony Tan, an Insurance Expert giving his advice.

The first piece of advice apart from “drive safely” was always have a camera or mobile phone with camera to take photos of any accident. Singapore has an agreement with insurance companies called the BOLA system, which is a fairer way of distributing costs after a multi-car pileup and a photo can show where you were in relation to other cars. Next piece of advice was “don't have an accident in Malaysia as it is very difficult to get their insurance companies to pay”. If you do have one make sure you call your insurance company and get your car towed back to Singapore to have it properly repaired.

There are many “rules” in relation to claiming on your

insurance and in Singapore we are lucky to have Acts of God covered, unlike most countries. One of the most important things to ensure is that if your car is in your name, even if owned by a company, that you “give permission” for other people to drive it. Don't leave the company or country and just expect the company to remove your name without double checking. They might allow others to drive the car and in the case of an accident it will be your name as the insured driver. This can cost you a lot of money in the event of a claim.

We also heard about the roufs, such as two windscreen replacements allowed each year, or bumper repairs consisting of replacement bumpers and then the old bumper is reconditioned and used in the next replacement. As a BMW bumper costs \$15,000 this is a very lucrative scam. While we were talking of scams we heard briefly about how many foreign workers “take sick” just prior to returning home and having unnecessary medical procedures just to claim the insurance. It appears there are “rogue” doctors as well as car repair men.

And a finally word, don't bang into the back of a taxi. Taxi drivers will not only sue you for damages to their cars but also personal injuries and loss of earnings.

Events to Catch

December

02nd
(Wed)

Understanding Learning Difficulties

By Rtn Dr Doris Ang, Clinical Director of Irlen Dyslexia Clinic

09th
(Wed)

Club's AGM (followed by a Farewell Dinner for our member Rev Dr John Barrett

(Both these events will be held at Yum Cha Garden Restaurant and our Members' Spouses are also invited to the Farewell Dinner)

16th
(Wed)

Exotic Plants

by our Rtn Thomas Sih

23rd
(Wed)

Christmas Fellowship & Western Style Dinner at SGCC

31st
(Thurs)

New Year's Eve Fellowship & Countdown 2010 with members of SGCC at the Clubhouse

(Please note that this Event replaces our meeting on 30th Dec).

December Birthdays

17th Thomas Sih

23rd Dr Hideo Shoda

MERRY X'MAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

President Patrick Lim & the Board of Directors wish all our Members & friends a Very Joyous Christmas and a Very Happy New Year – 2010!

