



Rotary crossroads

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How Have I Done?

By Honorary Member PP Raymon Huang

For the current Rotary Year, in this busy month of June, journey's end is round the corner. We are heading home, coming into the home stretch. But for Rotarians, the end of this journey is but the beginning of the next. Indeed, our mission to serve others in need has no ending. June is but a prelude to July, the beginning of yet another Rotary Year.

Be that as it may, this is a good, good time for us to take stock of our effort, our contribution – or lack of them – thus far this Rotary Year. It is a good time for some honest self-assessment, some self-evaluation, and some soul searching. It is always good, if at times difficult, to subject and submit oneself to close scrutiny and some self-examination. The results are often revealing; in many cases refreshing. The core question to ask: “How have I done?”

This process is applicable to all Rotarians, all along the line – right down from the RI President, District Governors, Club Presidents, and to the common member on the shop floor. No matter what your station is.

I know many of the top guns can bask and glow in the sunshine of success they have achieved; this is expected of our leading lights. How about the others? We are all in the same Rotary boat. Many too in the lower decks have done well, some extremely well. We know the path to success is never smooth. In between the fields of flowers and the rolling green, lush meadows, there are always the rocky terrain, the ravines, and the peaks to scale. So cases of the lack of success – or, to be more brutal, failure – will also dot the landscape.

It is from such a mix of experiences that we learn a lot of Rotary lessons as we make our Rotary journey. Failure is oft-times difficult and discouraging. But as is stated in the Good Book – failure leads, yes, to suffering; yet, suffering breeds endurance; and endurance character, and character, hope. Hope often leads to a new lease of life. Also, as one philosopher said, “Failure is success you have not achieved.” Encouraging! The important thing is to be aware of it, to accept it, and to acknowledge it. This process leads to reliance, resoluteness, and resolution. In short, the “3A’s” often spawn the “3R’s”. So it is not all gloom and doom if you feel you have been found wanting.

Our relentless pursuit of our “Service Above Self” goal is an example to many others. We often drive ourselves with that relentless purpose. We do not seem to let up, do we? Come what may. This drive is at times innate and intrinsic, a self-motivation without any expectation of any reward of any kind – be this mere gratitude or the more tangible kind. The success of our effort makes us feel good inside. This is reward enough.

In this journey of compassion and care for others, we are guided by “The Object of Rotary”, “The Four-Way Test”, and “The Guide To Daily Living”, with which we are all familiar. But these are just guidelines and the directional signs showing what Rotarians should do and along which paths to take. The rest is up to us. We try our level best. But at the end of the day, we still should ask ourselves, “How have I done?” Indeed, “Have I been significant?”

“Doing well” and “being significant” are, of course, not just about Rotary service. Even more important, I feel, is their application vis-à-vis the family and our daily life in our businesses and professions. We know the importance of the centrality of the family. We know too how important it is for us to be doing well and significant in our work. So these are good and useful questions to ask ourselves often.

As I alluded earlier – we know many Rotarians who show drive and devotion to Rotary service quite beyond the call of duty. We know too others have fallen short. Whatever the situation is – be it in reference to the family, our work, or Rotary – the answers hinge on no one but ourselves. Oft-times we hesitate to ask the questions. That is a fact of



In Focus

life. But the need to know the answers is there, because they should motivate us to do better. Asking oneself, “How have I done?” and “Have I been significant?” is a sort of conscience and character test. The great Rousseau once said, “Conscience is the voice of the soul; passions are the voices of the body. No wonder they often contradict each other.”

The case rests – with us!

PS: Obviously the Club has done well – thanks to President Garry’s leadership and certain outstanding Members. The keynote question asked is meant for the majority members – the “ordinary” and “shop floor” members, like me.

Donation to Piyali Learning Centre

Following are two acknowledgements regarding Rtn Terry Lobaton's recent contribution to the Piyali Learning Centre:

Dear President Garry and fellow Rotarian friends:

What can I say other to send you my profound thanks for your generosity and support!

My friend and fellow Board member of *PACE* Universal, Dr. Irina Francken, has been a true crusader on behalf of the girls we are serving and now it is very gratifying for me to know that there are others who understand what we are attempting to do to change the lives of so many girls and women while uplifting the community out of abject poverty. Our girls, the first generation learners, have been our inspiration as well as people like you who are understanding what we are attempting to do and are willing to come along the journey with us...and for this I am truly grateful.

I do not know if some of you are coming to Atlanta for the convention. But if you are, let us meet so that I can personally convey my thanks. I am one of the panelists for a Breakout Session at the Presidential Peace Conference. I will be speaking on creating peace through the education of girls and empowerment of women. The session I will be speaking at will be on Friday June 9th 2:30 - 3:30...may be I will see you there.

With kind regards,
PDG Deepa Willingham - D-5240
Founder/CEO - *PACE* Universal

Dear President Garry and our dear friend Irina,

I don't have words to thank you, your Club members and Rtn. Terry Lobaton for your continued support to Piyali Learning Centre. PP Jimmy Ooi and my late lamented friend PP Manik Shahani had donated a School Bus to PLC under a TRF Matching Grant a few years ago when PP Jimmy was the President. The bus still continues to serve the beneficiary students who are ever grateful to you for your precious gift.

Our relationship as Sister Clubs for over a decade embodies the Mission of TRF as we strive to advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.

I will be attending the RI Centennial Convention in Atlanta and would look forward to meeting Rotarians from your Club. PP Tapan Rao is a regular Convention Goer like me and I hope to see him.

Thanks again and warm regards,
Jayanta Chatterji



Last Week – Report on the Wednesday Meeting – 14 June 2017

OPENING REMARKS

President Garry warmly welcomed members and Guest Speaker Ms Charlotte Nors as well as Ms Josephine Ng with Alteration Initiative and Rasa Singapura who is The Good Samaritan Award recipient, to the Meeting.

President Garry also thanked Hon Secretary Louis Lim and Vice President Dr Hoon Sing Keow for chairing the last two meetings during his absence.

WELCOME OF GUESTS & VISITING ROTARIANS

Duty of welcoming guests of members and visiting Rotarians fell to Rtn Jayant Gadgil:

Guests

Mr Tim Purdy

Mr Harpreet Singh

Dr Hans Schniewind

Visiting Rotarians

PE Girish Ganeriwala – Central Calcutta

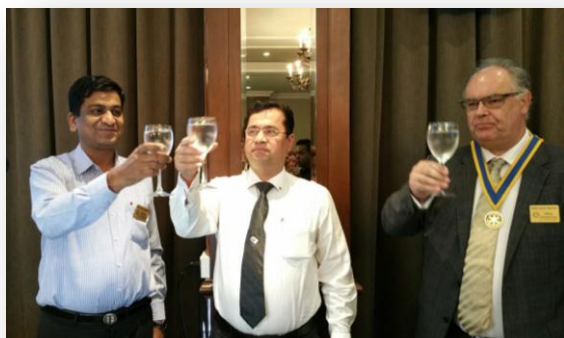
Sanata Almelid – Bali Seminyak



Jayant Gadgil

TOAST & EXCHANGE OF BANNER

Toastmaster, Rtn Dr Rupesh Agrawal who will be the incoming International Service Director was pleased to be able to raise a toast to a partner club, Rotary Club of Central Calcutta, which was introduced to him by PP Tapan Rao during the Club's Indian Mission held earlier in the year. PE Girish from the Central Calcutta club warmly thanked members for the invitation to attend the Club's installation and for the Club's participation in the project held in Bengal and he hoped further projects would be undertaken in the future.



From left: Rtn Dr Rupesh Agrawal, PE Girish Ganeriwala & Pres Garry



Pres Garry exchanges banners with PE Girish

SISTER CLUB FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Rtn Dr Rupesh also reminded members to register and attend the coming Sister Club event, without disclosing too much details, he assured members of the good food and entertainment for the evening.

Date & Time: Friday, 23 June from 6.30pm

Venue: Senior Police Officers' Mess, 153 Mount Pleasant Road, Singapore 296153

Cost: \$60 per person for non-ISC members

Dress: White & Gold

Last Week

83RD INSTALLATION - KEITH HARRISON AND HIS BOARD

President Garry reminded members of the Club's Installation Dinner as follows:

Guest of Honour	Professor Yeo Sze Ling
Date & Time	Saturday 24 June 2017, Cocktails from 6:30pm; 7:00pm Start
Venue	Pan Pacific Singapore Ballroom
Dress	Black Tie
Cost	\$150 per person

PE Keith Harrison called on members to sign up for the Installation at rcsinstallation@gmail.com or the Secretariat for tickets. He advised that there was another VIP speaker at the Installation, Ms Gina Lopez, an internationally recognised environmentalist who was the former Secretary of the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources in the government of President Duterte in the Philippines.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

President Garry called for the formal adoption of the Club's Financial Statements for year ended 30 June 2016, which were circulated to members on 1 June 2017. He added that no questions on the financial statements were received from members. Members approved the adoption of the financial statements by a show of hands.

MAJOR PROJECT 2016-2017

President Garry sincerely thanked PDG Dr Philbert Chin for his assistance in raising funds for the Club's Major Project beneficiary – the Samaritans of Singapore's research and training project. He noted the worthiness of the project in helping to save lives, in view of the sobering fact that there is one suicide everyday, and called on members to support the Major Project.

REMEMBERING PP CHARLES RUDD

Whilst there were no Birthday Celebrants for the week, President Garry took the opportunity to recognise a significant Club member, the late Past President Charles G V Rudd, who was the Club's president during Rotary year 1974-1975.

He added that upon the demise of PP Charles, his wife, Phyllis, bequeathed over S\$ 1.2 million to the Club. Interest from which the Club and Service Committees would utilize for projects.

As PP Charles's birthday would have been on 21st June, President Garry called on members to raise their glasses in a toast for his birthday, and for his magnanimous and generous gift to the Club.



Charles G.V. Rudd



The Good Samaritan Award 2016/2017



From left: Rtn Pia Bruce, Ms Josephine Ng & Pres Garry

President Garry called on Rtn Pia Bruce to announce the winner of the Rotary Club of Singapore's Good Samaritan Award 2017. Before doing so, Rtn Pia advised that The "Good Samaritan Award" was initiated as a project by the Club's 'Community Service Committee' in 1998; it has become an annual project of the Club.

The Award recognizes and encourages public spiritedness – of persons who often go well beyond the call of duty in their laudable effort to lend a helping hand to those in need.

The Award recognizes some of the following values in a Good Samaritan:

- Going the extra mile for other's and improve the quality of their lives
- Compassion for others
- Commitment to community and fellow human beings
- Courage in action and deeds

Rtn Pia noted that Ms Josephine Ng, co-founder of two social enterprises embodied these values. Her first social enterprise, Haute Alteration, provides training and employment opportunities to women in need; including single mothers, out-of-work women and matured women. Located at Mandarin Gallery, it provides high-quality apparel alteration services. The alteration boutique is recognised as one of the best in the region, with clients like Vera Wang, Berluti, Valentino, etc.

New Rasa Singapura, her second social enterprise, provides training and employment opportunities to persons with physical disabilities, individuals recovering from mental illness and the elderly. Located at Tanglin Post Office Building, it serves refined Singaporean cuisines. This enterprise simplifies work tasks and redesign jobs according to the abilities of each beneficiary.

Prior to being a social entrepreneur, Josephine co-founded an integrated marketing agency that provided marketing solutions to many Fortune 100 IT companies. The agency was subsequently acquired by an international marketing group in 2001.

Ms Josephine Ng was recognised by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong during his 2012 National Day Rally speech, for her initiative to provide more opportunities to the less fortunate. Ms Josephine Ng was also presented with the inaugural President's Challenge Social Enterprise of the Year award by President Tony Tan.

Last Week

Speaker: Ms Charlotte Nors, Managing Director, Singapore Repertory Theatre (SRT)

Topic: “Forbidden City”

In her introduction of Ms Charlotte Nors, Vice President Dr Hoon Sing Keow noted that Ms Nor came to Singapore, 17 years ago. She is a seasoned arts administrator passionate about Singapore Repertory Theatre (SRT) as a key contributor, building a culturally rich country and a diverse arts scene.

As the Managing Director of SRT, Ms Nor’s focus is to ensure SRT continues to produce and present outstanding theatre and learning programmes servicing a large number of patrons of all ages. Working with SRT’s Board of Directors she ensures that SRT lives up to the highest standards of good governance, whilst providing stable and engaged employment to the team.

She is a graduate of the DeVos Institute's International Arts Management Fellowship programme at the Kennedy Centre in Washington DC.

Ms Nors shared how SRT was operating as a charity in the arts with IPC status. She added that SRT is the largest producer and presenter of theatre in Singapore serving over 125,000 people a year. She further advised that SRT has for the past 24 years been a stepping stone for many theatre practitioners on and off stage, and the company is committed to continue to provide such opportunities.



Ms Charlotte Nors with VP Sing Keow



Rtn Irina presented the Club’s gifts to Ms Nors

Ms Nors shared some insights into the world of the arts and specifically about the process of producing the upcoming musical *Forbidden City*. She then called upon her colleague, Mr Emmanuel who also covered aspects of SRT’s community outreach activities and share ideas on how Rotary could be involved.

President Garry invited Rtn Dr Irina Francken to extend the Club’s vote of thanks to Mr Nors. Rtn Irina warmly thanked Ms Nors for her talk, adding that every society needed the arts, and she hoped the Club would find ways to collaborate as volunteers with SRT.

Mark Your Diary

Birthday Celebrants

RC sends Birthday greetings to celebrants this week:

21 June – Bharat Mandloi

27 June – VP Dr Hoon Sing Keow

Anniversary Celebrants

RC sends best wishes to Wedding Anniversary celebrants this week:

19 June – PP Mansoor & Maria Hassanbhai, Kannan & Emmeline Krishnan, Asheesh & Subina Khaneja

27 June – Kaustubh & Wrushali Bodhankar

International Service Meeting

International Service Committee Meeting is cancelled in lieu of the Sister Club Fellowship as follows:

Date: Friday, 23 June

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Senior Police Officers Mess, 153 Mount Pleasant Road

Cost: \$60 per person for non-ISC members

This Meeting

21 June 2017

Reception Desk duty: T K Chew, Robert Craiu

Sunshine Box duty: Haider Nawaz, Horst Hagemann

Final Club Assembly for Rotary Year 2016/17 and President Garry's year in review.

Next Meeting

28 June 2017

Weekly Meeting cancelled in view of the Installation Dinner held on 24 June 2017

Youth Service Meeting

Youth Service Committee Meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Thursday, 29 June

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: To be advised

Coming Rotary Events

June

Rotary Fellowships Month

10-14 June – R I Convention, Atlanta, Georgia, USA

23 June – Sister Club Fellowship at Senior Police Officers Mess

24 June – Installation Dinner, Pan Pacific Ballroom

28 June – Meeting cancelled in view of the Installation Dinner held on 24 June

July

5 July – 1st Club Assembly for Rotary Year 2017/2018

Queries, comments and articles request can be sent to rtvinfo@rotary.org.sg





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?

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.

**ROTARY
SERVING
HUMANITY**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016/2017

President	Garry Taylor
Immediate Past President	Alan Tan Gim Guan
President Elect	Keith Harrison
Vice President	Dr Hoon Sing Keow
Vice President	Jasbir Koh
Hon. Secretary	Louis Lim Hee Thuang
Hon. Treasurer	PE Keith Harrison
<i>Directors</i>	
Chair, Community Service	Dr Irina Francken
Chair, Vocational Service	Balasubramanian Venkatesan
Chair, International Service	Mark Wang Yat-Yee
Chair, New Generations Service	Adnan Ansari
Director without portfolio	Dr Ruediger Ackermann

