


ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3800
GOVERNOR'S MONTHLY
MAY 2012  **LETTER**

Reach Within to Embrace Humanity



BANGKOK INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION



Rotarians leave Bangkok encouraged to fight poverty and finish the job of eradicating polio

Rotary International News -- 9 May 2012

Rotarians and friends left the 2012 RI Convention in Bangkok, Thailand, energized to keep up the fight against polio and to use their ingenuity to help reduce global poverty.

The four-day event, which drew to a close Wednesday, attracted more than 35,000 attendees from 181 countries and geographical areas and included a celebration of two major milestones in the global polio eradication effort.

Attendees were also treated to a preview of the next RI Convention, which will take place 23-26 June 2013, in Lisbon, Portugal. Register now.

In his closing remarks, RI President Kalyan Banerjee reminded Rotarians that *“what’s important in Rotary isn’t what we say. It’s what we do, and who we are.”* *“There dwells within you the power and spirit that can evoke the energy you may not realize,”* Banerjee said. *“You have to be hungry enough to reach within and release the energy to help you embrace humanity. I believe this is the state we call happiness. I have just given you the prescription for it. Rotary can help you achieve happiness in life that you seek.”* Download Banerjee’s address.

Peace through service

Incoming RI President Sakuji Tanaka outlined his plans for his term, which begins 1 July. Tanaka will ask Rotarians to achieve Peace through Service. *“Through service we learn that the problems that may seem large to us are really very small,”* said Tanaka. *“We learn empathy for others. We come closer to people who seem very different from us. And we begin to understand how much we are all the same.”* *“Through our Rotary service, we know that cooperation is more productive than conflict,”* he said. *“We know that every one of us has something to give, and everyone has something to teach.”* Download Tanaka’s speech.

Delegates elected nominee Ron D. Burton, of the Rotary Club of Norman, Oklahoma, USA, as the 2013-14 RI president during the fourth plenary session earlier in the day.



Top: RI President Kalyan Banerjee and RI President-elect Sakuji Tanaka during the closing plenary session. **Bottom:** Ron D. Burton, 2013-14 RI president, and his wife, Jetta, are introduced during the fourth plenary. Rotary Images/Monika Lozinska



ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
District 3800

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Majestic Governor's Message

DG RAFAEL M. GARCIA iii



Your Majesties and Fellow Rotarians:

If you can imagine, 1994 was just eight years ago. That was when the Asian Financial Crisis hit the world and Thailand was one of the worst hit. We even used to brag that we were the least affected by the crisis because we were sort of like the ugly looking GRO who rarely got taken at a nightclub, so when hard times hit, we didn't get hurt too badly, because we were used to hard times anyway! Malaysia's Mahathir even stood up to the IMF and decided to manage the Ringgit himself successfully at that assisted by an English financial guru. And in Bangkok, may ex-moguls whose companies had gone belly-up were selling their Lamborghini's and Ferrari's and even their helicopters and Learjets, while many buildings were left unfinished, standing as witnesses to a financial system that had gone bad.

Eight years ago, did you say? Well, you couldn't tell by the way things look now! And the myth of the Bangkok traffic jam is long gone. Heck, it couldn't stand up to what we call a traffic jam on EDSA! With their skyways and freeways, Bangkok taxi-jocks imagine themselves as Formula One race drivers careening from one toll-gate to another. And to think that you can have this kind of progress even with a less corrupt government?! Just a "less-corrupt" government that has a vision and a plan, and maybe a private sector that continues on its own path of looking for ways to make a profit!

So don't despair. There's still hope! We will still make it. Someday! Meanwhile, enjoy Bangkok. Be careful at what you buy at Pratunam because you could end up with the same stuff they sell at the tiangge's in Greenhills.

YHSL

DG RAFAEL M. GARCIA III

NOTE : For those of you going to Bangkok:

Attire (From the Convention Program Book) The attire for most events is business casual, as customary in your country. Because the meeting and plenary session venues will be air-conditioned, participants are encouraged to bring a sweater or light jacket to all events. Invitation-only events may require more formal dress.

The weather is typically warm and humid in May, with an average high of 93°F/34°C, average low of 77°F/25°C, and humidity levels up to 75 percent

For Bangkok bound Rotarians and for all those who may be interested please see below the link to the "Convention Program Book" or souvenir program. It has all the details and information about the convention and the daily program of activities.

http://www.rotary.org/RIdocuments/en_pdf/c12_program_book_en.pdf

See you in Bangkok!

"I am both honored and humbled to accept the nomination of president of Rotary International," Burton said in his acceptance remarks. "I take a tremendous amount of pride in being a Rotarian. To me, Rotary isn't just another service organization. It is something different, something special." Burton says the best years are still to come for Rotary. He emphasized RI's Strategic Plan as the tool to make that happen. "The plan is a way to look clearly at who we are, where we are going, and how we should get there," said Burton. "It's a powerful reminder of our goals and priorities, which at their heart are the same as they've been since Rotary was founded." Download Burton's speech.

Achieving peace

Jose Ramos-Horta, president of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, talked about his country's struggle to achieve peace. He told Rotarians that peace can be difficult but, with the right people in place, it's attainable.

"Peace is a process — sometimes a long one, too long. It can be a formal political process," said Ramos-Horta. "But to be sustained we have to deal with human beings as individuals, as communities, as people with traumas, emotions, and anger, but also with hopes, hearts, and feelings."

Earlier in the session, Banerjee honored clubs and districts with the Changemaker Award and the Presidential Citation. The Changemaker Award recognizes clubs that made an extraordinary impact during 2011-12 through the Avenues of Service. The Presidential Citation recognizes achievements related to membership development and contributing to The Rotary Foundation.

During the fourth plenary session, General Secretary John Hewko outlined five priorities for the Secretariat to get Rotary on the best footing possible to embark on its second century. These included eradicating polio, implementing the Strategic Plan and Future Vision, finding an effective way to track and demonstrate the value of the service provided by Rotarians, increasing membership, and bringing Rotary into the ranks of major players in the world of global humanitarian assistance and development. Download Hewko's speech





DISTRICT ASSEMBLY 2012



Above : DGE Lirio and DGL Glo with the Peacebuilder Presidents & district officers pose for posterity with scenic Taal lake as background

The District Assembly for RY 2012-2013 was held last April 28-20, 2012 at the Taal Vista Hotel in Tagaytay City. Hosted by the Rotary Club of Marikina West, a total of 800 Peacebuilder Presidents, Club Officers and their spouses and families attended this Training Seminar which was held to prepare the participants for the next rotary year.

Registration started as early as 8:00 AM even as the assembly of participants and processional was scheduled at 12:30 PM. Opening Ceremonies started promptly at 1:00 PM. with DG Raffy Garcia III calling the event to order. Doxology, National Anthem and Opening Remarks were made by Ms Laarni Lozada, PE Ric Mendoza and DISTAS 2012 Chair PP Pope Solis respectively. DG Raffy Garcia delivered an inspirational message which delved on the purpose of the training seminar. "DISTAS he said, is the next important training program that has been set up by Rotary to prepare you for your tasks as club and district leaders. You will learn your specific functions, and how all function work together to produce an effective vibrant club and district". after delivering his message DG Raffy Garcia turned over the proceedings to DGE Lirio Sandoval. PDG Mac Hermoso then introduced the days Guest of Honor and Speaker DSWD Secretary Dinky Soliman who spoke mostly on her Departments role in alleviating poverty and the programs of government in helping those who have less in life in our society.

For his part, DGE Lirio Sandoval stressed that DISTAS is meant for the entire club leadership to learn more what they will do next Rotary year. He went on to explain what the theme "Peace through Service" means. " It is a theme that is easy to embrace and understand. We are already in Rotary to serve our community and RI President Sakuji Tanaka is simply reminding us to continue what we do best, in that way, we are already contributing to the attainment of peace. He then continued to encourage ev-



Above : DG Raffy Garcia and DGE Lirio Sandoval together with DGLs Minda and Glo and other dignitaries lead in the singing of "Let there be Peace on Earth" the next rotary year's theme song.



Above : DGE Lirio Sandoval and DGL Glo acknowledging members of DISTAS 2012 host club RC Marikina West at the closing everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about Rotary. Eight break out sessions followed from 3:00 to 6:00 PM after a brief coffee break. A service Projects Fair enabled incoming President to contemplate what service projects to embark on come their term. The Dinner and Fellowship that followed was one of the best the district has ever had. It was indeed a very fulfilling DISTAS. Congratulations RC Marikina West.!

PRESIDENT'S ELECT & SECRETARY'S ELECT TRAINING SEMINAR



Above : DG Raffy Garcia turns over the proceedings to DGE Lirio Sandoval after calling the event to order and delivering his message.



Above : DG Raffy Garcia delivering his message to the Peacebuilder presidents, district officers and dignitaries at the PESETS

PESETS, the mandatory training/seminar for incoming Presidents was held as a new innovation for two separate Saturdays March 3 and March 10, 2012. The event was hosted by RC Marikina East. This was held at the DEPED Regional Educational Learning Center in Marikina City. All but seven Presidents attended the two day seminar which included the Incoming Secretaries who were trained on their Role and Online Communication Tools as next years term intend to go fully automated (digital) to keep up with the times. There were five break out sessions following RI's Club Leadership Plan Structure.



Above : DGE Lirio Sandoval delivers his message at the PESETS. . .

The first day started early with registration at 7:00 AM and the program proper at 8:00 AM with DG Raffy Garcia calling the Seminar to order. After delivering a very inspiring message followed by the turn over of proceeding to DGE Lirio Sandoval. Before his talk explaining the pur-

pose of the day's activity and expounding on next years RI themeof, a video message RI President Sakuji Tanaka was presented. The two day seminar achieved it's purpose of preparing the club Presidents and Secretaries to face the challenges of leadership that lie ahead.

SEAMLESS (MEMBERSHIP, TRF & PUBLIC IMAGE) SEMINAR

Another first in the district the D3800 Seamless Seminar was held at the Club Filipino last May 26, 2012, hosted by RC San Juan and RC E-club of San Juan. The event started at 1:00 PM with DG Raffy Garcia III calling the seminar to order and turning over the proceedings to DGE Lirio Sandoval after a brief inspirational talk. Main speakers were the Rotary Coordinators for Membership - PDG Olan Villanueva of D3790; for Public Image - PDG Chit Lijauco of D3820 and Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinator for Zone 7A - PDG Bobby Viray of D3780. They all appraised the participants of the present status of our Region and our District in their respective areas and gave a birds eye view of what to do and expect this coming Rotary year. A very lively open forum followed after every speaker and the participant specially the Presidents and Club Directors present went home equipped with fresh knowledge that can help them ensure that their respective clubs become efficient and effective in rendering service to the community. although the session was quite lengthy it was again a very fulfilling day of Rotary information.



