



Rotary Club of Beijing

President: Kevin Fong

Weekly Meeting

13 January 2009

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

610 / 140

Kempinski Hotel, Beijing

People's Republic of China

Editor: Grace Zhou assisted by Rtn. Peter Danford

Pictures: Rtn. Peter Danford

Opening

President Kevin Fong opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to our guests and fellow members.

Rtn. Jacques Cheng led the Four Way Test recital in both Chinese and English.

Sergeant-at-Arms Gilbert welcomed visiting Rotarian:

Ms. Helen Boyle, from RC of Inner Wheel, Northwick, London, England

And visiting guests:

Mr. Anders Poon, guest of Rtn. Gilbert

Mr. Isaac Wu, guest of Rtn. Gilbert

Ms. Janice Tan, guest of Rtn. Gilbert

Mr. Curt Bergstrom, guest of Rtn. Gilbert

Mr. Jean Van Wetter, guest of Rtn. Alan Babington-Smith

Mr. Mark Powell, guest of Rtn. Vicky Wong

Ms. Elaine Wong, guest of Rtn. Rita Yang

Mr. Chin Ching Yap, guest of Rtn. Kevin Fong

Mr. Brian Griffin, guest of Rtn. Charles Lagrange

Ms. Yang Mei, guest of Rtn. Sunny Cheng

Happy Money

During the meeting, Sergeant-at-Arms Gilbert raised RMB 3,370

Attendance

Attendance rate was 46%

Reports & Announcements

PR Director Rtn. Gilbert announced that the Club's website had been updated for recent events, including news about the 2008 Christmas Bazaar and details of the five schools that received Club funds for building libraries etc. Rtn. Gilbert welcomed members to visit the website to learn more about these and our other club activities.

President Kevin reminded members that Y.K Chen, RI Special Representative, will be visiting our Club and will make a presentation at next weeks meeting (January 20th). President Kevin encouraged members to come along to the meeting as it will be a good opportunity to meet and talk with Rtn. Chen.

President Kevin also reminded members of two upcoming dates: January 27th (the last Tuesday of the month) is the second day of Chinese New Year Holiday and the weekly meeting will held as a fellowship meeting. President Kevin encouraged members who are in Beijing during the holiday time to come and join the fellowship meeting.

On March 14th, the Rotary China Conference and Leadership training will be held in Beijing. Rtn. Josephine Ng has been appointed as the China Conference coordinator to organize the conference and training activities. All members are encouraged to attend the conference and further details will be sent out in due course.

Speaker's Program

Introduced by Rtn. Charles Lagrange, Mr. Jean Van Wetter, Country Director of Handicap International, made a presentation about his organization and its mission.

After graduating from the Solvay Business School in Brussels in 2000, Jean Van Wetter has worked for 4 years as management consultant for Deloitte Consulting in Brussels. He then decided to change his career path to work in the humanitarian and development sector. Handicap International, an international humanitarian organization based in Brussels, first recruited him as project manager for its mission in Cambodia where he spent 3 years managing various projects in the field of disability prevention. In 2007, he was appointed as China country director to represent the organization in China and coordinate the disability prevention and rehabilitation projects run by the organization in different provinces of the country.

His presentation entitled "Disability in China - Experience of Handicap International" explained the plight of handicapped people in China and left members with a positive impression of the good work and hope that Handicap International has brought to many handicapped people living in China.

PE Rtn. Henry Wang thanked Jean for his presentation and expressed that he believed that all members were deeply moved by what they heard about the work of Handicap International in China.

Conclusion

President Kevin Fong closed the meeting with a toast to the visiting clubs, Rotary International, our sister Clubs - the Rotary Club of Copenhagen, the Rotary Club of Hong Kong, Rotary Club of Great Neck, the Rotary Club of Shanghai, the Rotary Club of Del Mar and Interact Club of Dulwich College Beijing.

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Rtn. Gilbert, PR Director and webmaster.