



Your **ROTSOCPE** for February 7, 2008

for the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, USA

EXPLORING THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

DR. KENNETH CHAN SPENT two weeks last August on a 4-wheel drive into Tibet, exploring the Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau and visiting the Everest base camp. Dr. Chan came as a teenager from Hong Kong to the United States, earning a Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering and working six years with Union Oil as a research petroleum engineer. Then he switched careers, attending medical school to earn his M.D. degree. He has been an Internist in this area the past sixteen years, and moved to San Marino where he served as president of our Chinese Club while his two daughters shined at SMHS. Dr. Chan loves traveling to exotic places and photographing there, combining his travel with his medical volunteer work. For the past fourteen years, he has made annual trips with other physicians to bring health care to Mongolia and underdeveloped parts of China. Last year's medical mission was in Qinghai, China, where he stayed over to explore Tibet. Shody Chow brings Kenneth Chan to Rotary this Thursday with special pride, introducing a photographic view of Tibet while commemorating Chinese New Year's.

SPECIAL NEW YEAR LUNCHEON

THE MENU THIS THURSDAY at Community Church will be Chinese, celebrating the "Year of the Rat" (no, no rodents to be served).

WE'RE PROMISED TREATS SUCH AS:

- *Egg Roll and Fried Wonton
- *Beef with Broccoli
- *Sweet and Pungent Chicken
- *String Beans in Garlic Sauce
- *Braised Noodles
- *Pineapple Fried Rice

AS AN ACCOMMODATION for our non-Chinese members, forks will be available. Dessert is the All-American Fortune Cookie, invented right here in L. A.

FENG SHUI THE 28th

SHODY CHOW'S SPEAKER on Feng Shui, scheduled for today, cannot come this week. Johnathan Ng, a Feng Shui master, will be our program speaker on February 28th, with a PowerPoint presentation explaining what it's about, and with time to answer some general questions on improving your home and office.

SEVERAL MEMBERS HAD ASKED about bringing guests, and about getting suggestions from Johnathan Ng on Feng Shui in their own lives. Yes to both – guests will be very welcome, and Mr. Ng will be happy to take questions, though he encourages such to be general, to apply in most areas.

RIGHT ON TARGET – AND IN THE BLACK!

WOULD THAT OUR FEDERAL OR STATE governmental budgets ran like San Marino Rotary's! We're more than half through the current year, and treasurer Dennis Kneier reported to our board that we're on budget, with no members in arrears with their dues (that's impressive, as we've suffered some losses and delayed payments in the past) and our expenses exactly as expected. The club has taken in about \$47,600 dollars, half for dues and half for meals, and spent \$36,700 to date. We send \$4,000 to Rotary International in dues, and \$2100 to our district. We spent about \$20,000 on meals over the six months, and \$6500 in fees for our facilities. And our social activities have paid for themselves without problem.

THE TREASURER DOES LIST one area that needs to be watched carefully by members. He reports that he spent \$17 in "miscellaneous". That's suspicious! We've heard that architects cover their mistakes with ivy, cooks with ketchup, doctors with dirt, and accountants put them into the "miscellaneous" category. What's happened with that \$17? That's not even lunch at Colonial Kitchen – or much coffee from Starbuck's. That's not a replacement gavel, if Fred's had been stolen. Just where has that \$17 gone?

FEBRUARY 2008

FEBRUARY

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| 7 | Noon | New Year Chinese Lunch – and tour of Tibet |
| 14 | Noon | Bring your Valentine for our annual fashion show |
| 14 | 1:35 p.m. | Board meeting at Community Church after lunch |
| 21 | Noon | High School speech contest |
| 28 | Noon | The Feng Shui program, rescheduled |

THE ROTOSCOPE

For the Rotary Club of San Marino, California, U.S.A.

February 7th: Tibet for New Year's



M. G.'s APPROVED BY BOARD

TWO MATCHING GRANT PROJECT FUNDINGS have been approved by our Rotary Charities executive committee – our non-profit part of San Marino Rotary – and by the club's board. These international Matching Grants multiply our club's contributions with funding from the District and from Rotary International, making our aid stretch quite impressively.

LIBRARY BOOKS TO SCHOOLS in South Africa's poorest ghettos and villages is a project designed by Arcadia Rotary. We're joining with a grant of \$200 – which doesn't sound like much, but stretches to provide five times that number in reading books.

WATER CISTERNS IN VILLAGES around Mexico is sponsored by the Boulder City, Nevada, Sunrise Rotary. Several Nevada Rotarians toured impoverished areas where filthy water is hand-carried long distances to homes. The Rotarians found ways to install inexpensive cisterns catching rainwater and providing clean water closer to the houses. San Marino is contributing \$6350 to this effort.

REMEMBER THE JOKER DRAWING that stretched almost a year? That's our funding source for our contributions to these Matching Grants.

AND REMEMBER TWO OF OUR M.G.'s from last century, finishing the first kindergarten for Maya people in Guatemala, and sponsoring a mini-land-bank to buy farms for returning refugees? One of our members visited both last month, and found them strong and solid. The kindergarten has served more than 3,000 boys and girls while training several hundred teachers to go back to their villages. The land bank is in its fourth cycle, 90% of our funds repaid and intact by the villagers.

FIND A DATE FOR NEXT WEEK

A FASHION SHOW IS SCHEDULED for next week's meeting on Valentine's Day. That's a cheap date, a low-cost way to take your valentine out for lunch. However, it *could* get pretty pricey if you're unlucky. We've not heard if Margie will be showing glamorous female outfits, or Tony elegant men's wear, but if either or both should appear be warned that you may need a credit card that afternoon. Tony's cashmeres and Margie's jackets don't come cheap, you know, but their storefolk can't confirm if they're planning the show. Invite a date anyway!

LETTER FROM CHARLES BARR

DEAR FELLOW ROTARIANS:

HOW MANY TIMES have you been asked "what is Rotary?" or "what does Rotary do?" Each of us should have a concise response we can give when asked these questions. I suggest that a great response includes Rotary's polio eradication efforts. Rotary International has many publications available about PolioPlus. If you'd like to receive updates directly, sign up at RI's web site to receive "PolioPlus in Action" each month, a newsletter filled with resources on progress, upcoming events, and what clubs and districts are doing worldwide to help us reach Rotary's top goal of eradicating polio. To sign up, send an email to polioplus@rotary.org.

ONCE AGAIN, I ASK EACH OF US SHARE Rotary. Let's take the ongoing efforts to be personally aware of Rotary's many activities and then actively educate others about them and their worldwide impact. They will then see in each of us our joy and sense of pride at being members of Rotary. And then, if appropriate, it will be easier to SHARE MEMBERSHIP in Rotary with them.

Governor Charles

Our OFFICERS for 2008:

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Bulletin news or aripes? – send to: kveronda@southwesternacademy.edu – or call 626-799-5010. x1202



Fred's Funny this week:

He Who Laughs Last,
Thinks Slowest

