

Report on our “Green Your Community” Project



To unabashedly say that our Rotary Club of Pudu’s “Green Your Community” project was a “success” really meant that the Organising Committee has spent one percent on the inspiration part and the remaining ninety nine percent was on the perspiration! The inspiration at the conceptual stage then was to have an ambitious environmental protection and awareness project, other than just planting trees; distributing flyers; talks or visiting some degraded land. An environmental exhibition fitted nicely. This one percent was easy, but the remaining ninety nine percent which the Organising Committee did not bargain for turned out to be a gargantuan perspiration!

As the Organising Chairman of this Project, I deem it more an honor to tell who have contributed to it all, as the details of what happened on launching day 19th September, 2010 at the Kompleks Belia were well covered in the other sections by our Bulletin Editor.

The Project, if void of Grant Thornton, will still be remaining at the talking stage! But the firm, through their Managing Partner and our Pudu Rotarian, PP Dato NK Jasani has talked through Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur to be involved in the Project and to give the Project so many amenities (fertilizers; plants; chairs; local authorities fees and other assistance) which were all gratefully and well utilized on that launching day. YBhg Dato Amin was that key man in DBKL and of whom the Organising Committee was very thankful for all his assistance as well as Encik Shaari of DBKL, Bukit Bintang.

Grant Thornton staff, Ms Lee Bee; Chan Tuck Meng and their Sports Club of more than twenty members sacrificed their Sunday for the administrative and supervisory duties on that day. The green T-shirts donated by the firm and worn by the students; the exhibitors and the public and even by the Guest of Honor on that day mirrored our “green” theme.

The teachers in charge and the students of the seven schools really put up a splendid display on their exhibits and by appearing in the TV and print media were proof of these.

To the many “green” exhibitors, knowing that this exhibition may not be of much commercial value, but yet they participated on that day, the Organising Committee like to thank them for their contributions to this “green” exhibition.

Syabas! To members of our Organising Committee who carried the load successfully without spilling any grain - our Service Director, Rotarian Tan Peng Huat; PPs Dato Jasani (of Grant Thornton); PE Steven Oon; VP CT Heng; Rotarians Mok Sim; Annie Tan; Tenny Lee and Daisy Chiu.

Thanks to be recorded for our Pres. Leong Choy Ying (exhibitors & many other help); PP Quah Sek Cheng (Bulletin); IPP Robin Tay (recycle bags); Rtn Lawrence Annies (broadcasting); Alex Chang (stand-by Emcee & recording); Patrick Lee (photograph); Sandy Soh (distributions; refreshments); Jeffery & George Heng (Interactors).

Other than the above, for all our Rotarians and their families present on that launch date to support our Club’s project, the Organising Committee say a big thank you - PPs VG Chandran; Dr Lee Hoo Teong; Richard Liew; Ken Ong; Gary Lim; Rtns Robert Tan; Asok Kumar; Edward Lee and others whose names may be inadvertently missed out.

The Ketua Setiausaha of the Kementerian Wilayah Persekutuan, Dato Ahmad Phaisal Talib was our Guest of Honour representing the Minister, YB Raja Nong Chik who couldn’t make it. Our grateful thanks to the KSU.

By PP Chow Tain,
Organising Chairman
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Creative 'go green' drive

By BAVANI M
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THE Green Your Community Exhibition that took place at Kompleks Belia in Cheras last Sunday was an opportunity for the public and students to learn a thing or two on how to go green.

The event organised by Rotary Club of Pudu, Grant Thornton and Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) had booths exhibiting products and information on how the public can help green their communities and to create awareness on the environment and wildlife.

About 20 government departments, companies and non-governmental organisations took part in the event, including seven schools.

What was most endearing to see was the effort put in by the schools to make their booths interesting.



Good job: Phesal talking to students from SMK Confucian at their booth.

The Grant Thornton contribution of RM500 to each participating school may have been an incentive but it was still refreshing to see the students work hard to create awareness.

Schools that took part were SMK Confucian, Pudu English Secondary School, SMK Seri Bintang Utara, SM Kuen Cheng, SMK Cochrane and SMK Cheras.

But none could beat the effort put in by SMK Cochrane which won the top prize in the "Green Your Community" exhibition.

SMK Cochrane received RM1,000 from the Pudu Rotary Club and a RM500 from Grant Thornton International for their ingenious 3Rs (reduce, reuse and recycle) theme.

Their booth was not only interesting to look at but also displayed items like toys, paper baskets, rubbish bins made from reusable items, posters and photos of wildlife.

The students effort in getting the public to sign an I-pledge card to save the environment was also a nice effort to create awareness and certainly earned them some extra points.

The second prize went to SMK Pudu while SMK Cheras won third prize for their Eye of SMK Cheras — a ferris wheel made of recycled paper and aluminium cans.

Rotary Club of Pudu president Leong Choy Ying said the Green Community project was aimed at creating awareness on the importance of preserving the environment. “We must constantly remind ourselves that protecting the environment is not someone else’s job but our duty,” she said.

Federal Territories and Urban Wellbeing secretary-general Datuk Ahmad Phesal Talib, who launched the event, said the ministry and DBKL had initiated greening campaigns such as the planting of trees in Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya. “We encourage the private sector to get involved in such greening activities and not expect the DBKL to do everything,” he said.

Phesal added that he was delighted to see the effort put in by the private sector and schools for the project.