

## DISTRICT 3310 ALUMNI NETWORK GROUP (DANG) takes off to a good start, with Singapore as a base



*by PP Perlita Tiro, District 3310 Alumni Chair, 2016-2017, 2017-2018*

From Rotary Year 2016-2017, Rotary International expanded the Alumni Network around the globe to include Interactors, Rotaractors and RYLA participants. The Alumni Network in each District became a unit directly accountable to the respective District Governors, now functioning independently from the District Rotary Foundation Committee. The Network previously provided a link only to Youth Exchange students, recipients of various Rotary scholarships and grants, Vocational Training Team Members, Rotary Peace Fellows and Rotary volunteers. The current Alumni platform has now expanded to include all the younger people who have been associated with Rotary at some point of time. This platform allows this larger group of Rotary beneficiaries to continue pursuing their passion to engage in Social and Community Service-based activities through the Rotary movement, way after their membership to the Rotaract Clubs and Interact Clubs and attendance at leadership programmes via RYLA.

Thus, RI Alumni Network can now provide a platform to this catchment of over half million Interactors and Rotaractors, from over 30,000 clubs across the world, the connectivity and continuity of their passion to service the community at large. The Network will function in the long run, as a conduit for membership into Rotary when the students have developed themselves and are ripe for induction into Rotary Clubs. Maintaining this connectivity with them while they pursue their career and studies, is a vital link to Rotary, to enable them to keep in touch with developments within Rotary.

For District 3310, covering Singapore, East Malaysia, Southern West Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam, Immediate Past District Governor Michael Yee has appointed PP Perlita Tiro from Rotary Club of Singapore as District Alumni Chair for the year 2016-2017. DG Michael divided the three-country territory into Singapore, Sabah, Sarawak, Johore, Melaka and Brunei. In consultation with Advisor PDG Andre Suharto, District Alumni Chair PP Perlita appointed a Regional Alumni Chair for each territory. The team undertook an all-out initiative of recruiting a large catchment of past Interactors, Rotaractors, RYLarians etc. They attended installation events of new boards, Interactors' Conferences, Rotaractors' Conferences and youth leadership programmes within the District. They also worked with the various Clubs within the District, particularly the Youth Service Committees.

After the preliminary work of selecting and appointing Regional Alumni Chairs, drafting the new constitution, and organising the District Alumni Networking Group (DANG), recruitment started in November 2016. DANG was officially chartered by Past RI President, John Germ on

January 3, 2017 with an initial membership of 100 members who were recruited after much time and effort.

### ***The Officers of the District Alumni***

#### *District Alumni Team, Rotary Year 2017-2018*

District 3310 Alumni Chair	PP Perlita Tiro	RC Singapore
Regional Chair, Singapore	Rtn. Suresh Keerthi	RC Singapore
Regional Chair, Johor	PP Mark Koh (resigned October 2017)	RC BatuPahat
Regional Chair, Melaka	Rtn Vanessa Degan Smith	RC Melaka
Regional Chair, Sarawak	IPP Clarence Yong Tze Hien	RC Kuching Central
Regional Chair, Sabah	PP Vincent Chong KongVui	RC Tawau Tanjung
Regional Chair, Brunei Darussalam	RtnZannethPohCheatLeng	RC Bandar Seri Begawan
Advisor	PDG Hj Andre Suharto	RC Kuching Central

#### *District Alumni Team, Rotary Year 2016-2017*

District 3310 Alumni Chair	PP Perlita Tiro	RC Singapore
Regional Chair, Singapore	Rtn Suresh Keerthi	RC Singapore
Regional Chair, Johor	PP Kwang Jia Shing	RC Johor Bahru
Regional Chair, Melaka	-	-
Regional Chair, Sarawak	PE Lee KheeChuan	RC Kuching
Regional Chair, Sabah	AGTzunHei Chan	RC Sandakan
Regional Chair, Brunei Darussalam	RtnZannethPohCheatLeng	RC Bandar Seri Begawan
Advisor	PDG Hj Andre Suharto	RC Kuching Central

#### *DANG Officers, Rotary Years 2016-2017, 2017-2018*

President	Rtn Suresh Keerthi	RC Singapore
Vice President	Rtn Donny Liu Chi Keung	RC Queenstown
Hon Secretary	Rtr Zen Tan Yi Da	District Rotaract Representative 2016-2017
Treasurer	Rtn See Mee Lee	RC Singapore

DANG is now proud to announce a membership of 340. The work is ongoing with the help of District Chairs for Youth Service, Rotaractors, Interactors and RYLA, Presidents of the 65 Clubs in the District and Youth Service Chairs. PDG Andre Suharto, our Advisor, has guided DANG every step of the way from the most effective and practical official corporate identity of the AlumniNetwork (considering challenges of 3-country organisation, accounting and reporting requirements and recurring resource and cost requirements). For ease in corporate governance, we decided to organise DANG as part of the District 3310 Malaysian Berhad organisation, where all receipts and expenditures are counterchecked and accounted for by the District Treasurer.

Apart from the decentralised efforts of the various youth groups which DANG participates in regularly, DANG has organised the focused DANG events and activities to achieve its objectives, as described below.

### ***Installation of DANG Members and Networking with Rotarians***

To recognise the Registered members of DANG, an event was held at the National University of Singapore on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017, with attendance of 80 Rotarians, with DGN Henry Tan as Guest of Honour and AG Jimmy Ooias Keynote Speaker and Members of DANG. The members and Officers of DANG were installed and presented membership pins. Apart from an introduction to Rotary, we also had an evening of networking between members which came from different schools and colleges as well as the Rotarians present.

Rotarian Suresh Keerthi, Regional Alumni Chair-Singapore and President of DANG, shared the information on Importance of DANG on the future activities of DANG to engage for these members to participate in projects of Rotary clubs in district. Keynote Speaker AG Jimmy spoke of his journey in Rotary, starting as an Interactor during his school days to becoming a Rotarian and eventually a Club President, along with his active participation in District activities.



Advisor PDG Andre receives Certificate of Appreciation



DANG Members Take Oath of Office with DGN Henry Tan



Rotarians and Speakers who networked with the DANG Members



Speakers and Participants of the Event. On top right are DGN Henry Tan and AG Jimmy Ooi

### ***Rotary Information and Networking Event***

The next DANG event was organised for the more senior members of DANG with the specific purpose of introducing Rotary to them in greater depth. Held on 11 November 2017, this catered to past Rotaractors and other DANG members above 25 years, who could be considered for membership in the Rotary Clubs. New DANG Members were also installed. The main objective was to create awareness of the extensive work done globally by Rotary Clubs, thus enticing them to continue their service to mankind which they had started in their earlier participation as Interactors, Rotaractors and RYLarians.

Speakers for the event were senior members of Rotary in the District, such as District Membership Chair, PP Khushroo Dastur, Deputy District Membership Chair AG Joanne Kam, District Rotaract Chair PP Brown Pereira, District Foundation Grants Chair PP Shahul Hameed (A Service Above Self Award recipient), District Youth Chair PP Li Guang Sheng and PE Adrian Tan, a young, dynamic Rotarian. A few of the those present are now seriously being considered for membership by a few clubs.



PP Brown Pereira  
Dist Rotaract Chair

AG Joanne Kam  
Dep  
Dist Membership  
Chair

PP Dr Shahul  
Hameed  
Dist Foundation  
Grants Chair

PP Khushroo Dastur  
Dist Membership  
Chair

PP Li Guang Sheng  
Dist Youth Service  
Chair

PE Adrian Tan  
RC Garden City



Ex-Rotaractor Kenneth Chua,  
New DANG Member



Ex-Rotaractor Amy Wong  
New DANG Member



Ex Rotaractor Andrew Fong  
New DANG Member



### ***Participation in Rotary Club activities***

In addition to organizing their own programme of activities, Interactors and Rotaractors whonow constitute a good part of DANG Membership are often invited by their respective Rotary Club sponsors to assist in a wide range of Rotary Club projects. Here are some **examples**.

On October 28, 2017, the Foundation of Rotary Clubs in Singapore organized a Flag Day to support the events and activities of the foundation directed to the poor and the elderly in

the community. Joining Interactors and Rotaractors, a few DANG Members in Singapore participated in this event, requiring collection of funds from the public at several strategic points.

On December 7, 2017, the Rotary Club of Singapore invited the Club-sponsored Rotaract Club of Singapore at the National University of Singapore nursing school, most of whom were members of DANG. They demonstrated how to treat burns using first aid skills, conducted free basic health check (BP, BMI) for Rotarians, and presented a project they participated in East Malaysia providing children's education.

Other activities of Rotaractors and Interactors (including DANG Members) involved joining Rotarians in bringing out wheelchair bound residents from Society for the Aged Sick and residents of Bukit Gombak Community, to nearby food stalls for tea and snacks, to Chinatown to see Chinese New Year Festivities, to visit the Singapore zoo and other outings. Another example was providing goodie bags with daily necessities and snacks for 120 Children within and around the Gift of Love Home before Christmas.



Flag Day



Visit to the Singapore Zoo



Gift of Love Home



Basic Health Check up for Rotarians

### ***Initiative to attach DANG Members to National Youth Corps Programmes***

In addition to events going on within Rotary, the Regional Alumni Chair - Singapore, Rtn Suresh Keerthi, who is also President of DANG, successfully negotiated for a cooperation for Singapore-based DANG members to participate in the extensive activities of the National Youth Corps (NYC). NYC's activities align with the Rotary's objective of service to humanity. Participation is restricted only to Singapore citizens and Permanent Residents as the projects are funded by the government to give students and the youth exposure to social issues and community support with the aim of developing their EQ. Thus, participation in their activities would benefit DANG Members' overall development, in addition to serving the community.

The services cover the following five categories:

1. Youth Community services
2. Youth Expedition Program overseas
3. Youth Leadership Training Program
4. Social Enterprise Mentorship, Training and Support at Red Dot subbing facilities
5. Youth Volunteering programs

So far, two DANG Members have availed of the continuing programmes. NYC activities and programmes are found in their websites:

<https://www.youthcorps.sg/>

<https://www.youthcorps.sg/Programmes>

### ***Future Rotarians***

DANG aims to reach a membership level of 3,000 in the district over the next two years. The recruitment of DANG continues through all clubs in the District. District Chair RYLA. PP Chandran also contributed to high recruitment of new members. We also would like to acknowledge the contribution of District Interact Conference Coordinator PP Mandy Siaw who provided a setting for great interaction among like-minded youth in service across the District in Johor Bahru. The Rotary Club of Singapore, which sponsors 11 Interact Clubs also conduct yearly an Interact Leadership Programme to train the new Board Members of the various Interact Clubs. This has been another source of DANG membership.



District Interact Conference in June 2017

DG Michael Yee introduces DANG at Opening Night while District RYLA Chair Chandran Pillay Addresses Interactors on the benefits of becoming DANG Members

Website: <http://www.rotarydistrict3310.com/district.alumni/>

Facebook Page: 3310 District Alumni Network Group