Shenyang City – the unique home of

3 Rotary Clubs under 3 Different Regimes

By Herbert K. Lau (劉敬恒) (Rotary China Historian)

1 December 2022

Shenyang City (瀋陽/沈阳), a major Chinese sub-provincial city and the provincial capital of Liaoning Province (遼寧省), has been the home of 3 Rotary clubs under 3 different regimes:

(1) 1929 -- The State of Manchuria (Manchukuo) (滿洲國) – Mukden Rotary Club (奉天ロータリークラブ), Charter #3116 dated 11 April 1929 but was terminated on 31 December 1940.

(2) 1948 -- Republic of China (中華民國) – Mukden/Shen-Yang Rotary Club (瀋陽扶輪社), retaining Charter #3116 dated 31 March 1948 but was terminated on 21 December 1950.

(3) 2017 -- People's Republic of China (中华人民共和国) – Shenyang Rotary Club (沈阳扶轮社), admitted to Rotary International on 20 October 2017 and is still active.

Shenyang, literally means "the yang side of the Shen River" and refers to the location of the Hun River (渾河) (formerly called the Shen River 瀋水), a major tributary of the Liao River (遼河), on the southern side of the city. According to Chinese naming tradition, a river's north bank and a mountain's south slope are angled more towards direct sunlight and thus are considered the "sunny", or "yang", side. The city site is a flat, low-lying alluvial plain, although the land rises to the east toward the forested slopes of the Changbai Mountains (長白山脈).

Shenyang has passed through the control of many states and peoples in history. In the 14th Century, Shenyang came under the control of the Ming Dynasty (大明國). The city served as an important Han Chinese (漢族) military stronghold during the Ming period. The Manchu people conquered Shenyang from the Ming in the 17th Century and briefly used it as the capital of the Manchu Empire. In 1905, the Battle of Mukden (奉天會戰) took place south of Shenyang during the Russo-Japanese War. The Imperial Japan's subsequent victory allowed Tokyo to annex the region west of the old city and to increase influence on Shenyang; in September 1931 the Mukden Incident (九・一八瀋陽事變) led the Japanese to further invade and occupy the rest of Northeast China, forming the puppet state of Manchukuo (滿洲國). After the Japanese surrender in 1945, Shenyang remained a Kuomintang (Nationalist Party) (中國國民黨) stronghold, but the Chinese Communist Party (中國共產黨) captured it in 1948 after the Liaoshen Campaign (遼瀋會戰).

Mukden Rotary Club (奉天ロータリー倶樂部)

In the early 17th Century the Manchu controlled all of Manchuria, and Shenyang, renamed "Mukden" (Manchu: "Magnificent Metropolis"; the equivalent Chinese name is Shengjing 盛京), proved an admirable organizing base for the conquest of Ming. In 1644, when the Manchu supplanted the Ming on the imperial throne and established the Ch'ing Empire (大清國) (1644–1911/12), they transferred their capital to the former Ming capital at Peking (*Beijing*) (北京). However, Mukden retained its prestige as the older capital of the reigning dynasty; the tomb complexes of earlier Manchu rulers. Thereafter the city grew steadily, especially in the last half of the 19th Century, when Han immigration to Manchuria reached flood proportions. For a time during the Ch'ing Empire, the city was called by the name "Fengtien" (奉天府) in Mandarin (for Fengtien Prefecture, set up there in 1657). In the period of struggle between Russia and Japan for dominance in Manchuria after 1895, Mukden was inevitably one of the key positions. From that time, when the Russians gained rights to build railroads in Manchuria, Mukden was a Russian stronghold. During the Russo-Japanese War (1904–1905), it was the scene of the Battle of Mukden, when the city was finally taken by the Japanese Empire. However after the fall of the Ch'ing Empire and by 1914 it was ruled by warlords, of the Republic of China. The city name was changed back to "Shenyang", which was the provincial capital Liaoning Province, and had been the largest city in Manchuria. But the city continued to be known as "Mukden" (or Moukden) in some English sources and in Japan through much of the first half of 20th Century.

In the early 20th Century, Shenyang began expanding out of its old city walls. The Shenyang Railway Station on the South Manchuria Railway and the Shenyang North Railway Station on the Peking-Fengtien Railway (京奉鐵路), both west of the old city, became the new commercial centers of Shenyang. In the 1920s, Mukden was the capital of the warlord Chang Tso-lin (張作霖). At the time, several factories were built by Chang to manufacture ammunition in the northern and eastern suburbs. These factories laid the foundation for Shenyang's industrial development.

After the Mukden Incident on 18 September 1931, the Japanese further invaded and occupied the rest of Manchuria in northeast Chinese mainland, and created the puppet state of Manchukuo. During the Manchukuo era (1932–1945), the city was again called "Mukden 奉天", and was developed by the Japanese into a center of heavy industry. The Imperial Japan was able to exploit resources in Manchuria using the extensive network of railroads, such as, vast expanses of Manchurian forest were chopped down. The development of Mukden was also unbalanced in this period---municipal facilities were mostly located in Japanese residential areas, though its original cultural heritage was allowed to retain while undergoing modernization. Mukden had become a leading Japanese industrial and commercial center in Manchukuo.

Rotary Extension to Mukden

Shown on this page is a picture in 1929 of the organizing committee of the Rotary Club at Mukden, the second to be formed in that State of Manchuria. Thus Rotary continued its forward march in the Far East. Here in the ancient seat of the Manchu Empire, with the tombs of the ancient rulers within the very confines of the city, came a modern institution which recokoned in terms of dynasties was born but yesterday, but having principles of universial, humantarian service, same of which were first voiced by Confucius.

The organizing committee of the Rotary Club of Mukden --- Left to right, seated, were: S. Takahashi, J. Suzuki, T. Sahara (Chairman), T. Amano, and T. Taketa. J. Furusawa (standing) was the vice-president of the Rotary Club of Dairen, and acted as the special representative in the organization of the new club.

Umekichi Yoneyama (米山梅吉), Governor of the 70th District, wrote to Chesley R. Perry, Rotary International Secretary on 8 January 1939 from Tokyo, Japan:

I venture to inform you we have quite a hope of organizing a club in Mukden, South Manchuria. It is not premature, I believe, to take step towards it, because inspired by the establishment of Rotary Club of Dairen several prominent businessmen in Mukden are now tendering to me their earnest desire to have one there also. As you know, Mukden is the centre of Manchuria and its commercial, social, civic and educational conditions seem to be developed insomuch that they may affect success of a Rotary club and serve spreading the movements further. I shall be very glad if you let me know of your intention by wire, on receipt of which I hope to act upon the matter immediately.

In addition, these facts about Mukden were also provided:

(1) Population 336,411--- with 286,000 Chinese, 29,157 Korean, 19,524 Japanese, 1,730 Others

(2) Consulates--- French Republic, British Empire, Japanese Empire, Weimar Republic and Nazi Germany, Kingdom of Italy, United States of America, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR).

(3) Banks--- Yokohama Specie Bank (横濱正金銀行); Bank of Chosen (朝鮮銀行); Kung Tsi Bank of Fengtien (奉天公濟平市銭號); Seiryu Bank (正隆銀行); Bank of Manchuria (東三省銀行); etc.

(4) Manufacturing Plants--- South Manchurian Sugar Mfg.; Mukden Linen Goods Mfg.; Man-Mo Woollen Goods Mfg.; Oriental Tobacco Mfg., etc.

(5) Newspapers--- Political Gazette; Hoten Shimbun (奉天新聞); Hoten Nichi-Nichi Shimbun (奉天日日新聞); Hoten Mainichi Shimbun (奉天每日新聞), etc.

(6) Churches & Temples--- English Christian Church; French Roman Catholic Church; Japanese Christian Church; Mission Chapel of Hongwanji Temple.

(7) Schools--- Chinese: Law School, Military School, Normal School, Fengtien Middle School; Japanese: South Manchuria Railway Company's Medical College and Middle Schools, Girls' High School for Japanese and Chinese, Fengtien Foreign Language School.

(8) Hospitals--- The Japan Red Cross Society Hospital; South Manchuria Railway Hospital; Hospital of the United Free Church of Scotland.

(9) Industries--- Industries generally have not yet so much developed as even to meet the local demands which have of late greatly increased both in variety and in quantity because of the recent rapid growth of population and the conspicuous progress in social and civic conditions of the native inhabitants. But they shall attain before long a high degree of development that the city may stand really as an important industrial centre. In fact, it is a remarkable tendency that the investments by the Japanese and other foreign interests are steadily increasing and large factories are to be established.

(10) Commerce--- Mukden is the greatest distribution centre for goods in the middle South Manchuria. The chief exports are bean, bean-cakes, millet, wheat, rice, tobacco, hemp, drugs, and leathers. Above all the city is the greatest market of the fur trade in Manchuria. The chief imports are cotton cloth, cotton yarn, paper, kerosene, sugar, metal manufactures and miscellaneous goods. The returns for 1926 show that goods transported from the Mukden Station amounted to 331,541 tons while those brought in totaled 1,510,190, together aggregating 1,741,731 tons. There are two chambers of commerce, one in the walled-city, and one in New Town.

Approval from Rotary International

On 6 February 1929, Chesley R. Perry replied:

We are enclosing confirmation of our cablegram of 5 February informing you that Mukden is approved for organization.

Mukden is on the approved list of cities in which Rotary clubs may be organized and we know that we can trust your good judgment in organizing a club there. We also know that if a club is organized at Mukden you will check over the charter list carefully to see that not more than three minor classifications appear under any one major classification.

The classification terminology on all charter lists must be checked up before they are sent on to the Board for approval. In the case of clubs near here it doesn't mean so much delay in time to check up on an improperly written list, but in view of the distance separating us it would cause regrettable delay if any check-ups had to be made on lists. That is why we appreciate so much the thorough work and the careful scrutiny of charter lists by governors of the more far-away districts.

The provisional Rotary Club of Mukden submitted its "Application from Club for Membership"

to Rotary International on 8 March 1929 together with a Charter Members list of 21 ethnic Japanese. Regular meetings would be held on every Saturday, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. at Yamato Hotel (大和旅館), Mukden.

On 20 March 1929, District Governor Umekichi Yoneyama wrote to Chesley R. Perry, Rotary International Secretary:

While I am thanking you for your kind consideration to the application for membership of R. I. made by Mukden Club, I shall further be obliged if you will exert your personal effort so that the Board will charter the Mukden Club in an earliest opportunity.

The reason of my so asking is that the newly born club wishes to present at the first district conference to be held at Kyoto on April 27th and 28th. For my part I am also very desirous to include the said club as a member of the Rotary family in my district at the conference.

The district conference is, by the way, duly prepared by me and the conference committee and I have every reason to believe that the first district conference will be successful one in every respect through Rotary principle.

I am looking forward to receiving your cable advice stating that Mukden Club is chartered.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Tokyo, Japan, Mukden Rotary Club was admitted to Rotary International on 11 April 1929 with Charter #3116, and was grouped in the 70th District.

Empire and Boosterism of the Tokyo Style

This Rotary extension can be said as the result of the "Empire and Boosterism of the Tokyo Style". A sense of arrival pervades the Tokyo Rotary Club's activities and speeches throughout the 1920s as the Japanese clubs grew in reputation worldwide---and the Japanese Empire itself continued its expansion. Members of the Chinese Rotary clubs, however, began complaining by the early 1930s that the Japanese Rotarians were using their clubs in Manchuria and their control of the 70th District as a vehicle for expansion of the Japanese Empire into all of East Asia and the "South Seas". The Chinese Rotarians had good reason for concern.

When Suzuma Suzuki (*Classification "Linen Goods—Manufacturing"*) spoke on his visit in Mukden and Dairen (*Dalian*) (大連) in August 1929, he recounted the eagerness of fellow Japanese businessmen of those cities to establish their own Rotary clubs because, he explained to his Tokyo Rotary Club: "*Manchuria is considered by the world as the richest treasure house, and all nations are making investigation concerning it. The key to the hidden treasure is now held by our brother Rotarians in Dairen and Mukden, and they are anxiously waiting to show us the secret, so that we may all come back millionaires. This is the best and probably the only opportunity we shall have for grabbling the treasure which all nations are looking for!*"

For Suzuki, time was the essence. The future Rotarians of Manchuria could prove an invaluable resource for the expansion of Japanese economic interests in those key cities, so Suzuki formed the "on-to-Dairen-and-Mukden committee" that week as a way to drum up support for a joint business trip to those cities by Tokyo Rotarians. Forming such a committee was standard procedure in Rotary's brand of boosterism. When the Dairen-Mukden Charter Night came to pass

in early October 1929, 72 Rotarians and spouses from Tokyo arrived in the Dairen harbour and were greeted by "*Rotary flags streaming upon the roof of the pier, and many members with ladies waiting to welcome us.*" At the celebration dinner itself, "*the dining room was tastefully decorated with the flags of many nations and that of Rotary International. Vice-President Ohdaira [of the new Dairen Rotary Club] ... spoke of the phenomenal growth Rotary is making throughout the world*" while the Club's other Vice-President, Furusawa, told of "*how the Club had been originally conceived and brought into existence through the kindness of Tom Sutton*." Since Tom Sutton, Rotary International President 1928-1929, had given active support to the idea of establishing clubs in these cities while presiding over the Second Pacific Rotary Conference hosted by Tokyo in the fall of 1928, the boosterism of Suzuki, Ohdaira, and Furusaws carried the imprimatur of Rotary International's highest officials.

Delegates from Dairen and other Rotary clubs attend the charter night at Mukden. The picture shows the delegates touring the older section of the city where the Imperial Ch'ing palaces and tombs remain as they were centuries ago.

The next day the entire group of Tokyo and Dairen Rotarians and spouses went to Port Arthur (*Lǚshùn*) (旅順) to be "*shown the old battle ground*" (where the Japanese destroyers shot the opening salvos of the Russo-Japanese war in 1904 with a surprise attack on the Russian fleet stationed there). Many of the guest Rotarians then continued to visit Mukden "*by way of a visit to the Iron Foundry in Anshan*", where the newly hatched Mukden Rotarians "*at a signal from the Chairman, stood up and, forming a circle about the hall with flags and pennants in hand, 'ringed' around the seated guests singing Rotary songs in Japanese*."

By their arrival to Harbin (哈爾濱), "*the future commercial centre of the Far East*", it was becoming evident how little space there was between these Japanese Rotarians' visions of trade expansion and the growing imperial ambitions of the Japanese Empire in Manchuria.

Manchuria, however, was not the only land brimming with economic potential in the eyes of Japanese Rotarians. Other than the Korean Peninsula, there were more explorations in the South China Sea islands.

With Mayor Zenjirō Horikiri (堀切善次郎) becoming an Active Member of the Tokyo Rotary Club, the private service club continued down the path of blurring lines between the imperial state and the expanding industrial base of Japan at all levels. The syncretism of Japanese nationalism and Rotary's principles of "business morality" was rather tenable---only the admixture seemed much less neutral in practice than in theory. Apart from Rotary International's gentlemanly request that the Tokyo Rotarians remain apolitical, there were no logical or institutional guarantees that the lofty ideals of Rotary's civic internationalism could not become handmaidens to Japanese imperialism.

The first real test of the Japanese Rotarians' devotion to Empire or to Rotary's civic internationalism came in the aftermath of a small explosion close to railway line owned by the South Manchuria Railway on 18 September 1931. Later dubbed the Mukden Incident, the explosion was blamed on Chinese dissidents by the Imperial Japanese Army, already based in Manchuria to defend the growing interests of the Japanese Empire. The explosion became a cause belli for Japan, resulting in a full-scale invasion of Manchuria and, six months later, the creation of the puppet state known as Manchukuo.

How would the Japanese and Chinese Rotarians respond to the incident? Would their national allegiance trump their internationalist creed? A clear answer came with the Tokyo Rotary Club's publication in English of a booklet《The Manchurian Problem》in December 1931.

Mukden Rotary Club was terminated on 31 December 1940 but reason was not disclosed. Prior to that, some of the Club's activities were reported on《The ROTARIAN》magazine:

June 1930

Masao Ohta, graduate of the Imperial University, Tokyo, Counsellor of the South Manchuria Railroad, and charter member of the Rotary Club of Mukden, is now on a tour that will take him around the world. He attended the recent Third Rotary Pacific Conference in Sydney, and will represent his Club at the Chicago Convention in June.

April 1931

The youthful Mukden Rotary Club now has fifty members. It recently took a leading role in the welcome to this city of the British economic mission.

September 1934

With the help of the Rotary clubs of Dairen and Harbin, Rotarians of Mukden obtained the consent of administrative and leading business firms of their country for the institution of daylight saving during the summer months.

February 1939

For a month last summer more than 200 children ate nourishing food, exercised under supervision, joined in songs and games, and did many other things of a health- and spirit-building caliber at a camp to which the Rotary Club of Mukden had generously contributed.

19

CAUTION:
All blank spaces must be filled out.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

221 E. Cullerton St., Chicago, U. S. A.
2 Pelikanstrasse, Zurich, Switzerland
34-5 Norfolk St., Strand, London, England

APR 11 1929

ANS'D

INDEX? FILE WHERE?

APPLICATION FROM CLUB FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Secretary, Rotary International, Chicago, U. S. A.:

The Rotary Club of Mukden of the State or Province of Manchuria,

having been duly organized on March 8th, 1929.,

with twenty one (21) charter members, each representing a different classification of whom a roster list is hereto attached, now applies for membership in

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws of Rotary International, which are hereby ratified by this club and the following

understandings and agreements:

1. **As our Constitution, we have adopted the Standard Club Constitution for Rotary Clubs, copy of which, authenticated by the signatures of the president and secretary of our club, is attached herewith, together with copy of the By-Laws adopted by this club. No change in, or amendment to, the club's Constitution herewith submitted, nor any amendment to the club's By-Laws which will conflict with the Constitution of the club or with the Constitution and By-Laws of Rotary International, will be made without first submitting the same to the secretary of Rotary International for approval by its Board of Directors.**

2. **This club will be bound by any and all amendments to the Standard Club Constitution which may be adopted hereafter as provided in Article I, Section 3, of the By-Laws of Rotary International, and in Article XI of the Constitution of this club.**

3. **This club will remit payment for its members' subscriptions to THE ROTARIAN as provided for in the club By-Laws** upon receipt of invoice covering such subscriptions. (An obligation of membership in the United States, Canada, and Newfoundland. Elsewhere—voluntary.)

4. **NO ADDITIONAL MEMBERS will be elected until this club has received official notice of its election to membership in Rotary International. Thereafter this club will steadily though carefully add to its membership, but during the first year of its existence NOT MORE THAN THREE NEW members will be introduced into the club DURING ANY CALENDAR MONTH.**

5. **During the same period this club will not establish any classification not included in Rotary's "Outline of Classifications,"** unless it has the written approval of the District Governor (or, in the case of a non-districted club, of the Secretary of Rotary International).

And furthermore, in our desire to develop true Rotarians and a Rotary club observing certain fundamentals that will make of it a properly functioning unit, this club is hereby pledged to maintain the following

fundamental characteristics of Rotary:

1. The classification principle of membership.
2. Attendance, at least in the required minimum for continuance of membership.
3. Fellowship, in the establishment of intimate and lasting friendships.
4. The use of the club meeting in the making of broader and better business men—in training men more capable of rendering service in their vocations and in the community in which they live.
5. The requirement that members strive for the betterment of their craft, particularly stressing higher business standards and practices.
6. An obligation to do effective but non-duplicative service in their community, state or province and country.
7. Service to humanity.

Attached hereto is remittance amounting to $100.00, U. S. Currency, covering the charter fee as provided in Article I, Section 2, of the By-Laws of Rotary International.

The present officers are:

Pres. Tokusuke Sahara

V. P. Masao Ohta

Sec'y. Taneo Taketa

Treas. Tatsuji Shikata

S. at A. Teiji Amano

Directors (Complete list including officers):

Seiichi Takahashi

Ichiro Ohga

Masao Ohta

Fumio Arao

Teiji Amano

Tokusuke Sahara

Jiro Suzuki

Regular weekly meetings are held:

Day— Saturday

Hour— 12:30-1:30 P. M.

Place— Yamato Hotel, Mukden.

Dated March 8th, 1929, Rotary Club of Mukden, Manchuria.

Attest:

Taneo Taketa
Its Secretary.

By T. Sahara
Its President.

11 Aoi-cho, Mukden.
Address.

6 Uji-Machi, Mukden.
Address.

811-5 27-1500

MUKDEN ROTARIAN

印刷を以て謄寫に代ふ

Another Rotary

The 3116th brother of yours was born on April 12, 1929, here in Manchuria.

"Thus Rotary continues its forward march in the East. Here in the ancient seat of the Manchu dynasty, with the tombs of the ancient rulers within the very confines of the city, comes a modern institution which reckoned in terms of dynasties was born but yesterday, but having principles of universal, humanitarian service, some of which were first voiced by Confucius." (The Rotarian, June 1929, P. 8)

We have set aside this day to celebrate ourselves for this happy New-birth. Grateful, indeed, are we for those who share our joy and give us encouragement by sending good wishes and even by their own presence coming from remote places over seas and mountains.

發刊の辭

新參ながら當 Club も機關 Bulletin の必要を感じ、Charter Night の好機に其第一號を發行することになつた。此 Bulletin は當 Club の記錄として所屬會員に對する報告が表面上其第一の使命ではあろうが、實際上に於ては Fellow Clubs のそれと交換配布することによつてそれ等の Fellow Clubs に屬する Rotarian 各位と當 Club 員との間の友情關係を進展せしめる文使ひの役目をすることが最も大きな働きとなるであろうと考へられる。蓋し Club の自体の Members 間の友情的團結が Club 活動の根源をなすこと勿論であるが、更に此精神を擴張して他の Rotary Clubs との間に友情的連絡を堅くすることは Rotory International の大精神であり、其目的は World Fellowship の實現に在るのである。

仰ぎ希くば當 Club 各員の努力と Brother Clubs の Fellow Rotarians の指導に依つて本 Bulletin の將來に榮光あらんことを。

昭和四年十月

追て本 Bulletin は當分月一回發行の豫定であるが之を週刊とする日の遠からざらんことを祈る。

奉天ロータリー. クラブ誕生史

設立準備

昭和三年十二月六日大連ロータリー. クラブ第二回例會に招待された奉天の盛京時報社長佐原篤介君同三井物產の天野悌二君が席上大連のプレシデント松岡洋右君より奉天にもロータリークラブを設立する樣勸誘を受けた依つて兩君は歸奉の上其可能なることを確め佐原篤介、太田雅夫、鈴木二郎、高橋清一、天野悌二、武田胤雄の六君等が着々準備を進めた結果昭和四年二月二十三日奉天ヤマトホテルに於て前記の外荒尾文雄、原田孝七、林榮、稻葉逸好、乾武、川村宗嗣、野原正雄大賀一郎、四方辰治の諸君相會し奉天ロータリークラブ設立に關する懇談晩餐會を開く、此日大連ロータリークラブのヴァイス プレシデント古澤丈作氏わざわざ來奉列席せられ一同の爲めにロータリー精神に關して說明し且クラブ設立に付て色々指導された。此會合の結果愈々クラブ創立の段取が決定した。

創立總會

昭和四年三月八日奉天ヤマトホテルに於て創立總會が開かれた、當奉天はシカゴのロータリー. インターナショナル本部に於て兼て第七十デストリクトの所管地域たるべきことに決められて居つたので其デストリクト. ガバナー米山氏の代理として大連ロータリークラブのヴァイスプレシデント古澤丈作氏來奉司會の下に必要な議を進行し玆に奉天ロータリー. クラブの成立を見た。

チヤーター. メンバー

當日チヤーター. メンバーとして出席した人々は次の如くである。

天野悌二	荒尾文雄	原田孝七
林榮	稻葉逸好	乾武
久保田晴光	川村宗嗣	村岡敬四郎

1938 – Express "Asia" leaving the Mukden Railway Station (奉天驛) which was established in 1909.

Mukden street scene during the Manchukuo era

The Yamato Hotel, Mukden (奉天大和旅館), where the Rotary Club held its regular weekly luncheon meetings.

Scene of Naniwa Street, Mukden, (奉天浪速通) in 1929 (today Zhongshan Road 中山路) -- the Yue Lai Inn (悅來客棧) (left) was located to the opposite of the Mukden Railway Station (奉天驛).

Mukden / Shen-Yang Rotary Club (瀋陽扶輪社)

Before World War II, the Japanese colonized Manchukuo and used it as a base from which to invade China. The Manchu General Tung Ling-Ko (佟麟閣) was killed in action by the Japanese in the Battle of Peiping-Tientsin (平津作戰), which marked the beginning of the Second Sino-Japanese War. In the summer of 1939 a border dispute between Manchukuo and the Mongolian People's Republic resulted in the Battle of Khalkhin Gol (諾門罕戰役). During this battle, a combined Soviet-Mongolian force defeated the Japanese Kwantung Army (Kantōgun) (関東軍) supported by limited Manchukuo's forces.

On 8 August 1945, the Soviet Union declared war on Japan, in accordance with the agreement at the Yalta Conference (雅爾達會議), and invaded Manchukuo from Outer Manchuria and Outer Mongolia. During the Soviet offensive, the Manchukuo Imperial Army, on paper a 200,000-man force, performed poorly and whole units surrendered to the Soviets without firing a single shot; there were even cases of armed riots and mutinies against the Japanese forces.

Under Marshal of the Soviet Union Aleksandr Vasilevsky, the Far East Command of the Red Army occupied Manchuria in early August 1945 following the surrender of Japan. Manchukuo Emperor Kangde (康德皇帝--愛新覺羅·溥儀) abdicate on 16 August and had hoped to escape to Japan to surrender to the Americans, but was captured in Shenyang Airport by the Soviets. On 20 August, Soviet Red Army troops captured Shenyang. British and U.S. reports indicate that the Soviet troops that occupied Northeast China and Eastern Inner Mongolia region looted and terrorized the people of Shenyang.

The Soviets were replaced on 12 March 1946 by the Republican Chinese Army, who were flown in on U.S. transport planes. During the Chinese Civil War, Shenyang remained a Kuomintang stronghold supplied by Claire Lee Chennault's (陳納德) Civil Air Transport from 1946 to 1948, although the Chinese Communist Party controlled the surrounding countryside. By February 1948 the city was suffering from drastic shortages, and by the summer 140,000 refugees per month were fleeing. It was captured by the People's Liberation Army on 30 October 1948, following a series of offensives led by Lin Biao (林彪) known as the Liaoshen Campaign.

From 1945 to 1948, Manchuria (Inner Manchuria) served as a base area for the Communist Army in the Chinese Civil War against the Nationalist Army. The Chinese Communists used Manchuria as a staging ground until the final Kuomintang (*Nationalist*) retreat to Taiwan in 1949.

Over the past decades, Shenyang managed to grow and increase its industrial might during consecutive wars with Russia and Japan in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Second World War, and China's Civil War (Shenyang became the main battleground between the Communists and the Nationalists).

Reinstating the Rotary Club in the heat of the Civil War

The World War II was concluded in August 1945 upon the surrender of the Imperial Japan. The fall of the Japanese Empire brought also the dissolution of Manchukuo. The entire territory of the State was subsequently occupied by the Soviet Union military forces. Until March 1946, this vast piece of land was returned to the regime of the Republic of China. However, during these short period of 8-9 months, the Soviets had already nourished the Chinese Communists to grow into stronger power though the territory was under the Kuomintang (*Nationalist Party*) administration apparently. Civil War was at its peak throughout the entire North China.

On the other hand, according to the map of Rotary International, this piece of State of Manchuria was part of the 70th District which was dissolved and all Rotary clubs were terminated during the Pacific War (1941-1945). Practically speaking, it was not yet opened to Rotary at this moment until further decision by Rotary International.

The then national leader of Rotary in China was Dr. Chengting T. Wang (王正廷博士) (Rotary International Director 1944-1946; 2nd Vice President 1945-1946) who shouldered the mission to reinstate the 3 Rotary districts and the 2 dozens of terminated Chinese clubs during the War by serving as the District 96-97-98 Governor in 1946-1947. He voiced out "*by dovetailing with the country's dream of international brotherhood and filling its vacuum of clubless life, Rotary faces an assured future in this oriental land*", and presented his dream in the article《2,000 Rotary Clubs in China》which was published on《The Rotarian》magazine November 1946 Issue.

One of Wang's 3 successors was C. C. Lin (凌其峻) of Peiping Rotary Club (北平扶輪社). Lin was appointed to serve as Governor of the 98th District in 1947-1948. He initiated to reinstate Rotary in the city of Shenyang. So, on 20 February 1948, he wrote to Rotary International:

There was a Rotary Club in Mukden for years. But it was under the district of Japan. Since Pearl Harbor, that club stopped operation. With Manchuria recovered by the Chinese authorities after V-J Day, many Chinese, formerly members of Rotary clubs in other parts of China, were given responsible positions there. Messrs. K. T. Kwo and T. Y. Cheng, when they left Peiping for Mukden, were especially requested by the Peiping Rotary Club and myself to survey the community with a view to re-organizing a Rotary club at Mukden. Mr. Kwo was appointed to be my special representative, and the Peiping Rotary Club assured him of its support as a sponsor club. In the past two months, several luncheon meetings of ex-Rotarians were held in the Railway Hotel and private homes, at which the question of organizing a new club was discussed. In spite of Communist disturbances in the surrounding country, quite a number of ex-Rotarians and other public-spirited members of the community expressed the wish to organize a new club so as to extend the Rotary ideal of service and fellowship. An organization meeting was held on February 12 with 20 chartered members signed up. The Rotary Constitution and By-laws were adopted and a board of nine directors was elected.

The provisional Rotary Club of Mukden requests Rotary International to grant it the status of re-admission of an old club and remit its charter fee.

In 1947, the political environment was in its unstable status. The Chinese Communist Party had practically controlled the surrounding countryside, though Shenyang was upgraded as one of the 12 cities directly under the jurisdiction of the Executive Yuan (行政院) (Prime Minister's Office). By February 1948 Shenyang was suffering from drastic shortages, and by the summer 140,000 refugees per month were fleeing. Rotary International was quite concern about this situation. Therefore Assistant General Secretary Lester B. Struthers replied on 17 February 1948:

It is particularly pleasing to note the extension efforts now under way in China and we hope that by the end of your term of office Rotary clubs will be established in several new centres.
With regard to Mukden, before approving an application for membership in R.I., the Board would need to have definite assurance that the situation there would permit a Rotary Club to function in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and By-laws. It would want to know whether that territory is under the control of a stable civil government or a military government. The Board has consistently refused to admit clubs in areas under military government control.

As for payment of a charter fee this would depend more or less upon whether there will be within the membership of the club some members of the former club or it will be comprised of an entirely new group. If the plan is to have the former club of Mukden re-established with the original charter and charter number, it is altogether likely that the Board will waive the charter fee if the District Governor so recommends.

At the present time Mukden is in non-districted territory and is, in fact, in territory not yet approved by the Board for Rotary extension purposes. Therefore the Board would want your recommendation regarding re-opening this area for extension and placing it in the 98th District.

We shall very much appreciate having from you as soon as possible complete information regarding present conditions at Mukden. Is the territory under the control of a stable civil government? Is there good reason to believe that a Rotary club will be able to operate freely and uninterruptedly in the same manner as other clubs in your district? Will there be many former Rotarians in the re-established club? All such details will be most helpful to the Board when it is asked to approve the application of the club.

Separately we are sending you several sets of organisation and application papers and pamphlets for use in connection with new clubs.

Congratulations on the excellent program outlined for your district conference. I am sure that Dr. Wang will make an outstanding contribution to its success, and that Dr. Leighton Stuart's address will be very interesting.

With no hesitation, C. C. Lin replied on 15 March 1948, from Peiping:

Upon receipt of your letter, I have made some investigation through different channels. I am glad to report that for more than a year since the Chinese Government took over the city of Mukden, it has been and still is under the civil administration of a mayor and other civilian commissioners. The Municipal Government is continued along the same lines as the cities of Peiping, Tientsin,

Shanghai and Canton. It is true that the military situation there is of a serious nature, but that is also true at Sian which is now under siege by Communist troops. Even Tientsin was at one time or another under the threats of Communist attack, and the danger of further attack is by no means all over. Yet in the latter city has not only the Rotary Club prospered, but a district conference was held there successfully a week ago.

As you know, Manchuria was an integral part of China. Its restoration to Chinese sovereignty answered the prayer of all the Chinese people, although it was marred by destruction of the Communist forces. Now that more than a score public-spirited men in the city of Mukden have reorganized the Rotary Club with weekly meetings regularly attended ever since its organization meeting on February 12, 1948, I would highly recommend for Rotary International to admit it to membership and to place it in the 98th District which is nearest to it.

Your attention is invited to the representative cross-section of the community enrolled among the charter members of the provisional Rotary Club of Mukden. The membership is also international, comprising Chinese, Americans, British, Irish and French. Of the charter members, K. T. Kwo was a member of the Mukden Rotary Club up to 1934, while T. M. Barker and Tom Blakely were members until a much later date. On this basis, I should like to recommend that the Mukden Rotary Club be re-admitted with the waiving of charter fee.

Subsequently, Past R.I. Vice-President Dr. Chengting T. Wang gave his endorsement, from Shanghai, on 19 March 1948:

Governor Sea (C. C. Lin) has just sent me a copy of his letter to you dated March 15. I wish to express my strong endorsement to this request.

In the first place, Mukden or any other city in our North-eastern Provinces, generally known as Manchuria, should be assigned, in opinion, to District 98 for the present. The charter members, especially K. T. Kwo, Barker and Blakeley, have shown not only devotion to Rotary but, particularly at this moment, also courage and faith in reviving and organizing the Mukden Club; courage in face of a very difficult situation and faith in the ability of our Government eventually to crush the communists and in that of the United Nations so ably led by the United States of America, to steer the Nations to world peace. Let us not disappoint them.

Secondly, the reorganization of the Mukden Rotary Club will encourage old Rotarians in other cities in Manchuria to take initial steps to revive the old clubs that once were established. They will in the near future when China is supplied and adequately with arms and ammunition, the Governor of 98th District may then follow up with his plans to revive the old clubs and organize new ones.

Lastly, and by no means the least, it would be a stimulus to the existing clubs in China to renew their efforts to sponsor the organization of more clubs in all the three Districts.

Rotary International Secretariat had been holding the application of the re-organized club at Mukden, Manchuria, and pending receipt of information from Governor Lin as to the political status of Manchuria and on some other points. After having the letter from Governor Lin, strongly

recommending the re-admission of Mukden, plus the supporting letter from Past R. I. Vice-President Wang, and on the basis that Manchuria was then part of China and that the district in which Manchuria was once included (70th) no longer exist, Rotary International President Ken Guernsey and the Board of Directors approved, on 29 March 1948, the re-admission of the Rotary Club of Mukden, Manchuria, and waived the charter fee.

By presidential decision, the Rotary Club of Mukden was attached to the 98th District. The reason was the City of Mukden had not been added to District 98 (nor had any portion of Manchuria) rather R.I. was following a precedent established pre 1939, when the Rotary Club of Mukden was made a part of the then 70th District, but it was not the city nor any portion of Manchukuo that was added to the 70th District. It might be that at a later date a portion of Manchuria would be added to the 98th District.

The Charter No.3116 was granted on 31 March 1948. There were 20 multi-national charter members of this "second time" Mukden Rotary Club of which 5 of them were former Rotarians of various clubs. The regular weekly meetings were held on every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. at the Railway Hotel, Mukden (鐵路賓館).

Officers of the Club were:

(1) President – K. T. Kwo (Kwo Keh-Ti) (郭克悌) (*Public Utility - Electrical Engineering*)
(2) Vice-President – Hubert Francis Philips (*Banking – Foreign Exchange*)
(3) Secretary – Y. C. Lee (Lee Yun-Chien) (*Hotel Management*)
(4) Treasurer – T. Y. Cheng (Cheng Ta-Yung) (*Public Finance – Investment Banking*)
(5) Sergeant-at-Arms – Major John Kirk Singlauh (*U.S. Army Officer*)

Other clubs in the same District were: Tientsin (天津); Peiping (北平); Tsingtao (青島); Tsinan (濟南); Kaifeng (開封); Sian (西安); Lanchow (蘭州).

In accordance with the official city name be "Shenyang" as decided by the municipal government, the Club changed its name as "Shen-Yang Rotary Club (瀋陽扶輪社)" commencing on 1 July 1948. Later on 1 July 1949, Rotary International re-numbered all districts world-wide. The 98th District was changed to "59" until it was dissolved at the end of 1951.

王正廷 Chengting T. Wang

凌其峻 C. C. Lin

郭克悌 Kwo Keh-Ti

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
Chicago 1, Ill., U.S.A., 35 E. Wacker Drive
Zurich, Switzerland, Börsenstrasse 21
Bombay, India, Brabourne Stadium (North)

For Re-admission

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CENTRAL OFFICE RECEIVED Via Air Mail FEB 27 1948 INDEX 1 FILE WHERE

APPLICATION
For Membership In Rotary International

The Provisional Rotary Club of Mukden, Liaoning Province, China. (State, Province, Etc.)
hereby applies for membership in Rotary International.

This club was duly organized by an authorized representative of Rotary International on Feb. 12th., 1948, with 20 charter members, each representing a different business or professional service.

This club hereby declares that it has adopted the Rotary club constitution **and that it subscribes to the understandings and agreements printed on pages 2, 3 and 4 of this folder.**

The following documents required to complete this application are attached hereto:

1. **List of charter members**—dated and certified to by signatures of the president and secretary of the club.
2. **Check for $100.00 U. S. Currency (or its equivalent)**—covering the charter fee as provided in Article 1, Section 2 of the by-laws of Rotary International. (Applies for Re-Admission).

Officers:

Pres. K.T. Kwo (Keh-Ti Kwo)
V. P. Hubert Francis Phillips
Sec'y Y.C. Lee (Yun-Chien Lee)
Treas. T.Y. Cheng (Ta-Yung Cheng)
S. at A. John K. Singlaub

Regular weekly meetings are held:

Day Every Thursday
Hour 12:30 noon
Place Railway Hotel, Mukden

Complete list of members of the board of directors:

1. Keh-Ti Kwo
2. Hubert Francis Phillips
3. Yun-Chien Lee
4. Ta-Yung Cheng
5. John K. Cochran
6. T.M. Barker
7. Fenrie J. Wang
8. A .S. Abbott
9. Andri Dahoui

Provisional Rotary Club of Mukden

Dated 15th February 1948.

By K. T. Kwo
Club President

NE Power Administration, Mukden
Postal Address

Attest:

Y N Lee
Club Secretary

Railway Hotel, Mukden.
Postal Address

C-620

Rotary International

NOTICE OF ADMISSION OF THE ROTARY CLUB

OF Mukden, China

(READMITTED CLUB)

Dist. 98 Pop. 1,000,000

FORWARD PASS TO:

OD	TR	PO
600	900	500
330	C-620	200
CEO	MAO	BIO

See Corr. List No. 14

CHARTER NO. 3116

DATE ADMITTED: 31 March, 1948

NUMBER OF CHARTER MEMBERS: 20

MEETING DAY: Thursday

HOUR: 12:30

PLACE: Railway Hotel

PRESIDENT: K. T. Kwo
(electrical enginnering)
NE Power Administration
Mukden, Liaoning Province
CHINA

SECRETARY: Y. C. Lee
(hotels)
Railway Hotel
Mukden, Liaoning Province
CHINA

DATE ORIGINALLY ORGANIZED:

8 March, 1929

DATE ORIGINALLY ADMITTED:

11 April, 1929

DATE CHARTER CANCELED:

31 December, 1940

DATE REORGANIZED:

12 February, 1948

GOVERNOR:

C. C. Lin

NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "THE ROTARIAN":

CORRESPONDENCE— IF NOT IN ENGLISH SHOULD BE IN:

SIGNATURE: M.N.

DATE: 2 April, 1948

4115-JULY47-300—G65

SHEN-YANG ROTARY CLUB

Shen-yang (Mudken) China

September 9th, 1948.

Mr. Edward Ryan,
Head, Eastern Hemisphere Department,
Rotary International,
35 East Wacker Drive,
Chicago I, Ill. U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Ryan:

This is to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter dated September 1st. together with the official charter for the Rotary Club of Mukden. The arrival of this charter could be no more timely, as it will be presented to the club members on Saturday, Sept. 11th, at the first "Ladies Night" to be held by this Club. As it is, the evening will be also our "Charter Night" to celebrate the receipt of the Charter.

Acknowledgment of your letter of April 12th, together with pamphlets, has been delayed, but we have made good use of the various Rotary literatures, so far received. For your information, we wish to mention that this Club is at present having a major charity object to support, namely a local orphanage for which we have raised considerable fund to provide milk powder for infant feeding at this center. This Club also in late April had a music tea dance and raised over forty million dollars local currency (about US$500) which amount was turned over to the International Relief Commission in Mukden to run soup kitchens for the poor.

We shall always be pleased to hear from you, and look forward for your assistance and cooperation.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

K.T. Kwo, President
Shenyang Rotary Club.

On 9 September 1948, President K. T. Kwo of Shen-Yang Rotary Club wrote to Rotary International Secretariat confirming the receipt of Charter, and reporting 2 service projects

Finale

By spring 1948, the Communist forces were in control of the countryside across Northeast China, isolating the Nationalist forces in Shenyang, Changchun (長春) and Jinzhou (錦州) from each other. In addition, the Communists had seized control of the Peking-Harbin Railway (京哈鐵路), cutting off the Nationalist land route supply lines to Shenyang and Changchun. Consequently, supplies for the Nationalist forces in the Northeast had to be airlifted, which were largely ineffective and unsustainable.

The Communist Army began to encircle Shenyang on 29 October. As the city fell into disarray, the Communist forces launched the final assault on Shenyang in the morning of 1 November against the Nationalist garrison of 140,000 men, which quickly surrendered soon after. The city of Shenyang was entirely captured and occupied. The next day, the Military Control Committee of Shenyang Special City (瀋陽特別市軍事管制委員會) was established.

The internal office communication of Rotary International Secretariat dated 10 November 1948: "The cities of Tsinan and Mukden have fallen to the Communists, and the Rotary clubs in these cities have ceased operating."

On 1 May 1949, the Shenyang Special Municipal Government was changed to the Shenyang Municipal People's Government (瀋陽市人民政府). After the founding of the People's Republic of China on 1 October 1949, Shenyang was established as a municipality directly under the Central People's Government and the seat of the Communist Party, government and military organs of the Northeast Administrative Region. On 25 June 1950, the Korean War broke out. Communist China and the United States was in hostility. And Shenyang became the military industry and material base of the Chinese People's Volunteers, and therefore became a possible significant bombing target of the US Air Forces. In order to protect Shenyang's industrial foundation, the Central Government implemented the plan of "relocating factories from the south to the north" and relocated a large number of Shenyang's industrial facilities to Harbin (哈爾濱) and Qiqihar (齊齊哈爾), etc.

Obviously, the Korean War effect gave a very unfavourable political and social environment for Rotary activities. All Rotary clubs in China were not feasible to communicate with Rotary International located in the United States, nor to any Rotary Club in any part of the world.

Hence, the Rotary Club of Shen-Yang, along with most of the other fellow clubs, was officially terminated by Rotary International on 21 December 1950.

Though there had been vision and mission on 1 July 1937 to develop 2,000 Rotary clubs in The Republic of China, the 3 Rotary districts spread on most of the provinces were ultimately dissolved in July 1951. Excerpted here is the Rotary International Board of Directors' decisions laid down in January 1951:

With regard to Rotary in China, the Executive Committee, acting in behalf of the Board of Directors, recently took this action: It

(1) accepted the resignation of Keats Chu, Governor of District 59;

(2) agreed that the territories and Clubs of District 58 and 59 be considered as one District (58-59) under the supervision of the present Governor of District 58;

(3) called upon Rotary's Secretary to terminate the membership of Clubs in China where there is sufficient evidence that they are not functioning; and

(4) agreed that effective July 1, 1951, District 57 and District 58-59 shall be dissolved and that any remaining Clubs in those territories be considered as non-districted Clubs under the supervision of an Administrative Advisor.]

The reason behind the resignation of Governor Keat S. Chu (朱繼聖), of Tientsin Rotary Club (天津扶輪社), was that he responded the call of Mao Tse-Tung (*Mao Zedong*) (毛澤東), Chairman of the Central People's Government, in supporting the Chinese Air Force to fight against the United States and the Allies in the Korean War, by donated one unit of fighter.

(1) Charter President -- Kwo Keh-Ti (郭克悌)

- Joined the Rotary Club of Shanghai on 8 January 1935 (*Classification: Railroad Equipment – Railroad Supplies Distributing*). Before 1934, he had been a Mukden Rotarian.
- From March 1948 to June 1949, he founded the Shen-Yang Rotary Club and served as its first president. (*Classification: Public Utilities - Electrical Engineering*)
- From 1952 to 1953, served as the President of the Rotary Club of Taipei (臺北扶輪社), Taiwan
- 1960-1961 The first Governor of Rotary International District 345 [Republic of China (in Taiwan), British Crown Colony Hong Kong, and Portuguese Territory Macao]

(2) Sergeant-at-Arms -- Major John Kirk Singlaub (辛格勞布少校)

Major John Kirk Singlaub (1921-2022) was the Chief of the U.S. Military Liaison Mission stationed in Mukden (Shenyang) of the Republic of China from 1946 to 1948. He served as a military liaison and intelligence officer under the Strategic Services Unit (SSU), the successor to the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), reporting on the ground during the Chinese Civil War (國共內戰). During his service years in Shenyang, Singlaub was invited by Kwo Keh-Ti to join the charter member list of Shenyang Rotary Club, and served as the first Sergeant-at-Arms.

After being forced to evacuate Manchuria by the Chinese Communists (中國共產黨) in late 1948, Singlaub served as an instructor at Fort Benning, Georgia, U.S.A. Singlaub was again involved in special operations when he was an instructor at Fort Benning, and helped to establish the Ranger Training Center in 1950. Singlaub was a founding member of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He returned to special operations from 1966 to 1968, when he commanded a joint unconventional warfare command, the Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, Studies and Observation Group (MACV-SOG). Promoted to Major General and retiring in 1978, Singlaub has remained active in the Special Operations community and was recognized with the United States Special Operations Command's (USSOCOM) Bull Simons award in 2011.

The former building of the Railway Hotel (鐵路賓館) where the Shen-Yang Rotary Club held its regular weekly luncheon meetings.

In October 1945, a Soviet Union War Memorial Baikal Tank Monument was erected in front of the Railway Station. In 1946, Mukden Railway Station (奉天驛) was re-named as Shenyang South Station (瀋陽南站).

Shenyang street scenes as in 1946

Yue Lai Inn (悅來客棧) was renamed as Shenyang Hotel (瀋陽飯店) (left) in 1950, overlooking the Railway Station.

Outbreak of Korean War on 25 June 1950 made the Communist China and USA in hostility. War against USA demonstration rally was held in front of the Shenyang Railway Station.

Shenyang Rotary Club (沈阳扶轮社)

The old city of Shenyang resided almost entirely within the modern day Shenhe District (瀋河區), and used to have two city walls. Situated roughly within the area bounded by the four "Shuncheng" (順城; 'along the city') roads/streets in Shenhe District, the (now-demolished) square-shaped inner city wall marked the bounds of ancient Shenyang.

Along with its nearby cities, Shenyang in the 21st Century is an important industrial center in the People's Republic of China, and serves as the transportation and commercial hub of China's northeast—particularly involved in links with Japan, Russia and Korea. A center of heavy industry in China since the 1930s, and the spearhead of the Chinese central government's Northeast Area Revitalization Plan, the city has been diversifying its industry, including expanding into the service sector. Growing industries include software, automotive and electronics.

Shenyang is also a major city for scientific research, appearing among the top 200 science cities in the world as tracked by the Nature Index. The city is home to several major universities, notably Northeastern University (東北大學) and Liaoning University (遼寧大學), members of China's prestigious universities in the Double First Class University Plan.

Shenyang is also the central city of one of the major megalopolises in China, the Greater Shenyang Metropolitan Area, which has a total population over 23 million. The city's administrative region includes the ten metropolitan districts of Shenyang proper, the county-level city of Xinmin (新民市), and two counties: Kangping (康平縣) and Faku (法庫縣).

The Modern Rotary Club of Shenyang

Since the dissolution of the 3 Rotary Districts in 1951, Rotary International has no further decision to open Rotary in the Communist China. After four decades later, in Shanghai since 1994 foreign resident Rotarians were meeting on a regular basis. Also in June 1996, a German businessman who was a Rotarian from Hong Kong, took the initiative to meet for lunch with a number of Rotarians from other countries who lived in Beijing (北京). So, in Beijing these expat Rotarians in China started meeting regularly on a weekly basis. They met "as if" they were a Club. They even had a banner that said "Rotary Club of Beijing", preceded by the words "Striving to be". A lot of humanitarian projects were being carried out in China through local Rotarians and many Rotary clubs around the world. These two groups of Rotarians---in Shanghai and Beijing---were doing an impressive job in fund-raising for large projects to the benefit of thousands of Chinese.

After years of appeal from Shanghai and Beijing, and long time observation by Rotary International, in November 2005, the R.I. Board of Directors took a new step. They formally

adopted the decision that Chinese People's Republic should be open for Rotary extension. At the board meeting R.I. President Carl-Wilhelm Stenhammar was requested to appoint a "R.I. Special Representative to China" (SR) for a three-year-term with two main tasks: (1) the SR should liaise with the Chinese Government in order to pave the way for formal registration of Rotary in China. The SR should report directly to the R.I. President; and (2) similar to a district governor, the SR should provide guidance to the two Rotary clubs of Shanghai and Beijing in China. These two clubs would be given full club status as non-districted clubs. Hence, more Rotary / Rotaract / Interact clubs were formed gradually during the later years in various cities and provinces.

In July 2016, Frank Yih (葉守璋), of Shanghai Rotary Club (上海扶輪社), shouldered the office of the fourth SR. He was fully inspired by the dream《2,000 Rotary Clubs in China》of Dr. Chengting T. Wang previously in 1937. The northeastern China was one of the target extension territory in Yih's plan. Firstly, Yih approved Shenyang Satellite Rotary Club (瀋陽衛星扶輪社) to be formed under the sponsorship of Dalian Rotary Club (大連扶輪社) (2015), for a group of non-Chinese foreigners working and living in the city of Shenyang. Several months later when the situation was more mature, this group of "satellite" Rotarians were encouraged to form their own Rotary Club.

The new club advisor was Manuel Roettele (馬努) of Dalian. There were 20 charter members, with 15 incumbent Rotarians. They were multi-national but no Chinese citizen, and the gender ratio was male 18 : female 2. The Club met on every Thursday morning at 7:30 a.m. at Backerei Wempe, No.58, Wen'an Road, Heping District, Shenyang (瀋陽市和平區文安路 58 號). Charter was granted on 20 October 2017, as shown here:

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

THEY PROFIT MOST WHO SERVE BEST

This Certifies that the Rotary Club of

Shenyang, Liaoning Province, People's Republic of China

having been duly organized and having agreed, through its officers and members, to be bound by the Constitution and By-Laws of Rotary International, which agreement is evidenced by the acceptance of this certificate, is now a duly admitted member of

Rotary International

and is entitled to all the rights and privileges of such membership.

In witness whereof the seal of Rotary International is hereto affixed and the signatures of its officers, being duly authorized, are subscribed hereto this twentieth day of October 2017.

Admission to membership in Rotary International recommended by

District Governor

President, Rotary International

808A-EN—(317)

Rotary NEW ROTARY CLUB APPLICATION

Congratulations and thank you for your time and effort in organizing your club!

To avoid processing delays, supply all of the requested information. Include an email address for each member and a separate email address for the club. Email addresses are a vital part of Rotary's communication strategy.

- Note that the information you submit is subject to Rotary's privacy policy.
- Ask your district governor to sign the application, verifying that the information is accurate and complete.
- Send the completed application to your district's Club and District Support staff.
- If you have missing information, Club and District Support staff will contact you.

CLUB NAME

The club's name should be easy to find on a map or through an internet search, to help Rotarians and others who want to visit.

The name of this organization shall be the Rotary Club of

Rotary Club of Shenyang, Shenyang, Liaoning Province, PR China

List the club name, including community, state/province/prefecture, and country or geographical area

CLUB INFORMATION

Club email contact@rotary-shenyang.org
(Cannot be the same as any club member's email address)

District number 52

District governor's name Frank YIH (special representative)

NEW CLUB ADVISER

Title (Mr., Ms., Mrs., Dr., Rev., etc.) Mr.

First name Manuel Middle name _____ Family name Roettele

Suffix (Jr., Sr., III, etc.) _____

Member, Rotary Club of Rotary Club of Dalian, Dalian, People's Republic of China
List club's official name, including country

Email secretary@rotarydalian.org Phone +86 157-5404-9338

NAME OF SPONSOR CLUB ☐ No sponsor club

Rotary Club of Dalian

OFFICER NAMES

President Alexander MORGAN

☐ Officer will continue in this role next Rotary year, starting 1 July

Secretary Jan-David KUKLA

☐ Officer will continue in this role next Rotary year, starting 1 July

President-elect Alexander MORGAN

☐ Officer will continue in this role next Rotary year, starting 1 July

Treasurer Michael HOFMEISTER

☐ Officer will continue in this role next Rotary year, starting 1 July

Membership chair Manuel HOEFFNER

☐ Officer will continue in this role next Rotary year, starting 1 July

Rotary Foundation chair Sandro SCHMIDT

☐ Officer will continue in this role next Rotary year, starting 1 July

CLUB CHARTER FEE

Please attach check or proof of payment.

Number of charter members 20 x US$15 = 300

Currency in which the charter fee has been or will be paid, and total amount _____

Charter fee is being paid by:

☐ Check* ☐ Money order ☐ Fiscal agent ☐ Bank transfer to an RI account outside the U.S.

☐ Other _____

*If paying by check from another country, please have the check drafted through a U.S. bank. If you have any questions about payments, contact Club and District Support staff.

ROTARY MAGAZINES

Please indicate each charter member's magazine choice on the charter member list. Here, select one option for the club as a whole:

☒ All of our members will subscribe to The Rotarian.

☐ Total number of subscriptions to The Rotarian print edition _____

☒ Total number of subscriptions to The Rotarian digital edition 20

An email address is needed for each member requesting a digital magazine.

☐ All of our members will subscribe to The Rotarian or the following certified Rotary regional magazine:

_____

☐ Members are not required to subscribe to a Rotary magazine because the club is in Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Cambodia, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Romania, Slovenia, or Tajikistan.

CLUB MEETING (ALL CLUBS MEET AT LEAST TWICE A MONTH.)

Day of meeting Thursdays Meeting time 7:30am

Club website address (if available) www.rotary-shenyang.org

If your club meets in person, list the name and address of the meeting place, including postal code

Bäckerei Wempe, No. 58 Wen'an Road, Heping District, Shenyang

Liaoning Province, PR China 10014

CERTIFICATION

Club president and secretary signatures verify that this club is organized in accordance with Rotary's policies and constitutional documents and that the information in this application is accurate and will be kept on file by the club.

Rotary Club of Shenyang, Shenyang, Liaoning Province, People's Republic of China

List club name, including community, state/province/prefecture, country/geographical area

applies for Rotary membership. The club officers' signatures below confirm that the club:

1. Will abide by the RI Constitution and RI Bylaws
2. Has adopted Rotary's Standard Rotary Club Constitution as its own and will abide by its provisions
3. Will always have bylaws that are in harmony with Rotary's constitutional documents, including the Standard Rotary Club Constitution
4. Will not become a member of, or assume obligations of membership in, any organization other than Rotary
5. Will meet the obligations of a member club of Rotary

Club president's signature _____ Date 2017.09.26

Club secretary's signature _____ Date 2017-09-26

As governor of the district, I endorse this club's application for admission to Rotary and certify that this application meets the requirements in Rotary's constitutional documents and the Rotary Code of Policies.

I confirm that these statements are true and correct:

All members of the proposed new Rotary club have participated in an appropriate orientation and education program under the guidance of district leaders and members of the sponsor Rotary club, if it has one.

The club has set an annual fee to cover its financial obligations.

The club has a well-balanced membership in compliance with Article 5, Section 2, of the RI Constitution: "Each club shall have a well-balanced membership in which no one business, profession, or type of community service predominates."

The club is fully aware that it is not entitled to impose any limitations on membership based on gender, race, creed, age, and sexual orientation.

All current or former Rotarians joining this new club have provided written proof from their current and previous clubs that all of their previous club debts have been paid.

District governor's signature _____ District September 26, 2017

CHARTER LIST

Attached is a list of charter members, as required by the RI Board of Directors. Clubs may submit their charter member data in an Excel file or a Word document.

Rotary

Ian H. S. Riseley
President, 2017-18

T +1-847-866-3467
F +1-847-866-3390
ian.riseley@rotary.org

20 October 2017

Dear charter members of the Rotary Club of Shenyang, Liaoning Province,
People's Republic of China:

I am incredibly pleased and proud to welcome your Rotary Club of Shenyang into the Rotary family.

Rotary clubs provide a place for those with a passion for community service to connect, share ideas and discover how to make a difference in the lives of others. I am delighted that your club will join us as we confront some of the world's most critical and widespread humanitarian issues.

Chartering a new club is exciting and challenging. The key to success is building a strong, engaged membership dedicated to the idea of service, ranging from local community-based projects to major global initiatives. Together, we will accomplish great things as we serve local and international communities through *Rotary: Making A Difference*.

Congratulations again to the Rotary Club of Shenyang. I wish you great success for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Ian H.S. Riseley
President, Rotary International 2017-18

ONE ROTARY CENTER 1560 SHERMAN AVENUE EVANSTON, ILLINOIS 60201-3698 USA • T +1-847-866-3000 F +1-847-328-8554 • WWW.ROTARY.ORG