



**SELANGOR ZONE INSTITUTE**  
NOVEMBER 16 TO 18, 2012



*Tin mining is one of the oldest industries in the former Malaya. The tin mining started since 1820 in Malaysia after the arrival of Chinese immigrants. The Chinese immigrants settled in Perak and started tin mines. Their leader was the famous Chung Ah Qwee. Their arrival contributed to the needed labor and hence the growth of the tin mining industry. Tin was the major pillar of the Malaysian economy. Tin occurs chiefly as alluvial deposits in the foothills of the Peninsular on the western side. The most important area is the Kinta Valley, which includes the towns of Ipoh, Gopeng, Kampar and Batu Gajah in the State of Perak. In fact, alluvial tin is mined in a belt of country stretching from Kedah into the Kinta Valley and along the foothills of Perak, **Selangor** and Johore. This part of the tin belt includes the capital of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, which is the centre of another rich tin-mining area.*

*By 1872, there were about 40,000 miners in Malaysia, mostly Cantonese and Hakka. In **Selangor**, tin mining started in 1824. There were about 10,000 Chinese in the state. The majority of them were Hakka. These hardworking miners similarly developed Kuala Lumpur, like Selangor.*

*The tin mining industry was once a major contributor to the Malaysian economy. Indeed, Kuala Lumpur has its origin in tin mining. In 1979, Malaysia was producing almost 63,000 tons, accounting for 31 percent of world output. It was the world's leading producer and employed more than 41,000 people.*

*Malaysia was the world's largest tin producer and supplied more than half of the world's tin until the mid-1980 when prices dropped and more than 300 tin mines stopped their operations.*



*An open pit tin mine which is how Sunway Resort must have looked many years before*

*By 1994, the country's production had fallen to 6,500 tons, with only 3,000 people employed in the industry. While Malaysia's production fell by 90 percent over the last 15 years, global output fell by only 20 percent.*

*Today, the country hardly exports tin as production is used mostly for the domestic electronic and tinsplating industries. The collapse of the tin industry is due to exhaustion of tin deposits, the low tin prices and the high operating costs. But perhaps too much was done to protect it rather than to obsolete the industry.*

*The Mines Resort City, also located in Selangor was once the world's largest called Hong Fatt Mines. Now, it is a tourist destination boasting a 5-star hotel, a man-made beach and a 246-acre golf course—a far cry from the barren land it once was.*

*The long years of mining activity in Malaysia left its lands with large numbers of ponds, sinkholes, and tin tailings or waste rock from mining operations. Tin tailings make lands unsuitable for agricultural purposes. Ex-mining lands were controlled and developed by the government and utilized the area for housing developments. In Kuala Lumpur suburbs, low cost houses were built.*

*To complement these, other aspects of the rehabilitation program were thrown in, such as commercial centers, factories, schools, and universities. Then the private sector stepped in and investments brought in by different businesses led to transformation of ex-mining lands into recreational areas and theme parks.*



*From an open pit mine...this is now the luxurious 441 room Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel*

Developed by Dr. Jeffrey Cheah and located 35 minutes from Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) & 25 minutes from the city centre, Sunway Lagoon Resort is an opulent, 441 room hotel facility incorporated into the Sunway Lagoon Theme Park whose posh and upscale ambiance is legendary. With five restaurants and outlets to cater to every craving imaginable and easy access to Sunway Pyramid Shopping Mall and Sunway Lagoon, theme rooms make a stay there a magical experience.



*The Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel viewed from below near "The Wave" Lagoon Pool showing the long hanging bridge on the left and the twin speed slides on the right*



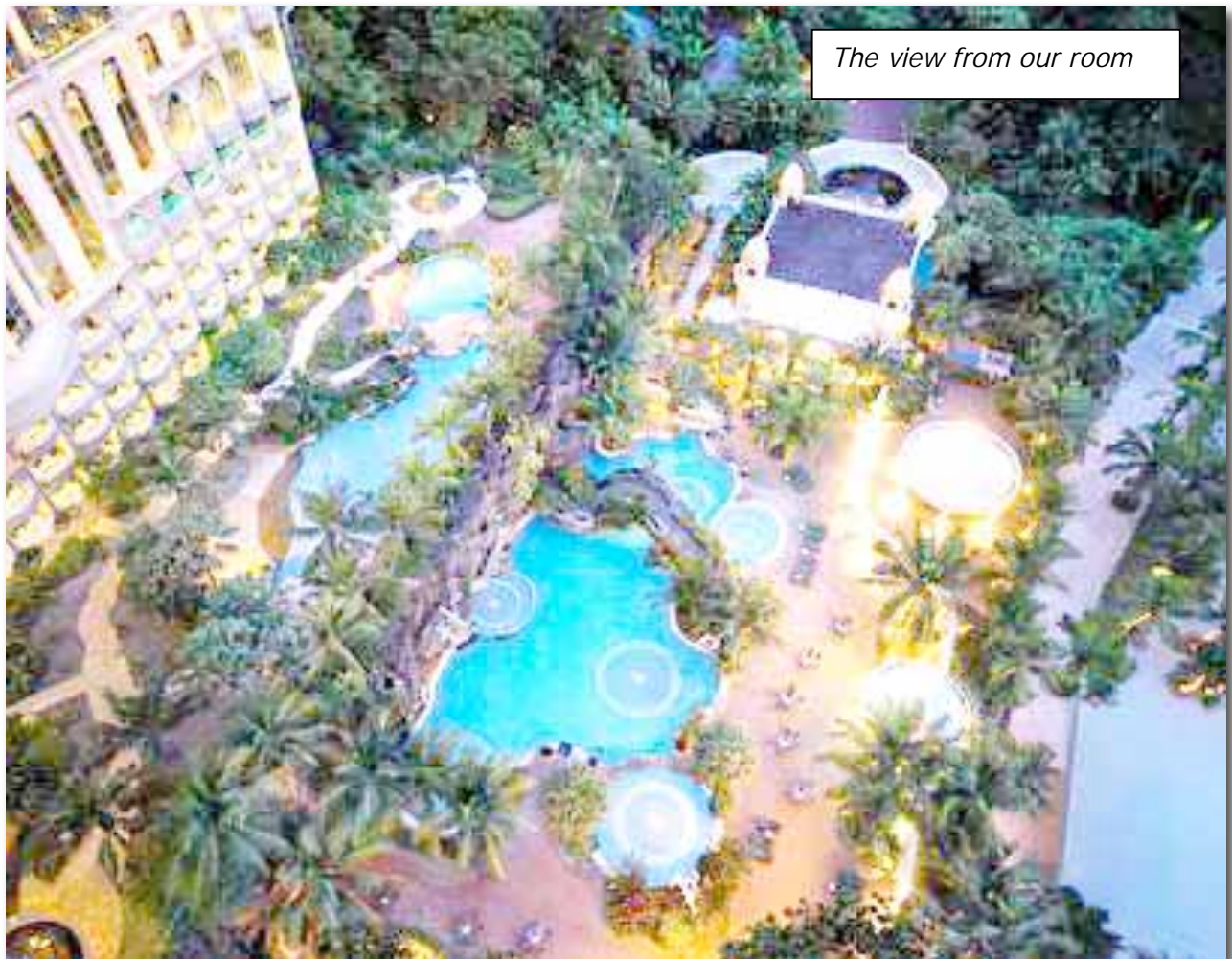
With 10 fantastic hotel pools, Malaysia's first "international standard" theme park, Sunway Lagoon Resort has been a major hit with a whopping 80 acres comprising an abundance of water-based activities and attractions! Giant waterslides, a cool river, lagoon express, a waterfall garden and twin speed slides make the Sunway Lagoon Theme Park one of the most exciting family destinations in Malaysia. There is a shopping mall called the Pyramid located inside the theme park.

17 villas along with beautiful resort suites, The Duplex and the Pyramid Tower together house more than 1,200 rooms, studios and suites suiting a variety of budgets inside this Sunway Lagoon hotels building. The entire complex makes up one of the best and most bustling dining, shopping and entertainment centers in all of South East Asia. Six different restaurants offer a myriad of choices in cuisine including American, Japanese and surf and turf. Sunway Lagoon Malaysia comprises three distinct and exciting themes including Wild Wild West, Waters of Africa and World of Adventure each with their own boatload of attractions. Hit the "high-speed racer" waterslide at the Congo Challenge, make a splash at Cameron Climb with a double tube inverted ascent, get spun and soaked in raging rapids on the Grand Canyon River Rapids or experience stomach-launching twists and turns on the Tomahawk ride as you're swung 360-degrees through the air.



*The Wave Lagoon Pool*

With a host of other exciting rides at the Theme Park, both children and adults would enjoy, I think, Sunway Lagoon Resort is one of Malaysia's best kept secrets, waiting to be discovered by everyone in Asia and beyond...



Now that you have been introduced to the origins of the Selangor experience, I must say that it was quite unique in the sense that we were all expecting to see a hotel situated near a beach or a huge lagoon. We never expected to discover that Sunway Lagoon Resort was transformed from a former open cast mine, a deep and barren wasteland, into an oasis filled with trees, flowers, a huge lagoon and 10 swimming pools of various shapes and sizes; which we never got to experience as we were busy with the Institute for almost three days.

After we entered the huge Sunway Resort lobby, we were brought to our hotel room on the 11th floor and we were expecting the elevator to go up, but surprisingly, we went one floor down. The lobby was located in the 10th floor and some of

the function halls were on the 15th floor. The main restaurant was down in the lowest level on the first floor. It took a while to get used to going down to our room on the 11th floor and even lower down to the 1st floor for breakfast. Every time we used the elevator we had to think twice or thrice whether we were going up or down. We got lost several times.

But all in all, at the Selangor Zone Institute, it was great to catch-up with old friends, rekindle friendships and make new ones. For some it may have been a first visit to establish relationships, to sojourn to tourist places or to experience the Malaysian shopping extravaganza.

Appropriately, the Selangor Institute was an event to trade stories, exchange notes, enjoy good fellowship and build new links in Rotary. The presence of several Rotary VIPs like RI President Sakuji Tanaka, Immediate PRIP Kalyan Banerjee, PRIP Raja Saboo, PRIP John Kenny, incoming President Nominee Gary Huang and other incumbent and past RI Directors made the Institute even more I would say, "star-studded".



## Zone Institute Album



*Left: Ben with President Sakuji Tanaka (they were together as Regional Rotary Foundation Coordinators (RRFCs) in Evanston, Illinois 1996 - 1998) At right: Josie with Pres. Sakuji Tanaka*



*Above: Ben with PDG Ray Patuasi of Cebu and PDG Tony Hung of Hong Kong prior to the Zone Institute Opening ceremonies*



*Left: Ben with 3790 District Governor Nominee Linda Winter of Baguio City*

*Below: Josie with Future First Lady Corrina, spouse of Rotary International President Elect Gary Huang of Taiwan*





*Above: PDG John Cheah of Johor Bahru the Secretary of the RAG on Dengue Committee*

*At Right: At the RAG on Dengue Meeting on November 16 at the Sunway Resort Hotel Lobby, Chairman Ben is discussing the program for the First International Conference "Dengue Fever Situation and its Control" with other RAG Committee members. This will be held at Phayao University, North of Chang Mai in Thailand, this coming January 17 - 18, 2013*





*At right: RI Pres. Sakuji Tanaka  
Below: PRIP Raja Saboo  
Lower photo: RIPN Gary Huang*



*Upper right : PDG Chit Lijauco  
speaking on latest Rotary Concepts*

*Lower right: PDG Rolando "OYAN"  
Villanueva 2012 - 2013 District  
Membership Chair District 3790  
speaking on how to increase  
membership in Rotary Clubs*





*At Left: Having a reunion pose with Pres. Belen Montessa whose late husband was a Club President in Dagupan when Ben was District Governor in 1985*

*At Right: With District 3790 First Lady Evelyn Bautista prior to the opening ceremonies of the Zone Institute*

*Below: From left...PDG Owens Torres, IPDG Digna Ragasa, Josie, AG Lisa Montez, Spouse Kalimah of Kota Kinabalu, Spouse Nila Torres, Pres. Belen Montessa and Ben, with PDG Vitt seen waving at the back after the dinner hosted for the revered King and Queen of Malaysia. Nobody was allowed to wear white, blue or gold as these were the King's royal colors.*



Upper photo: Josie, Letty and PDG Rudy Balmater of Indonesia, Ben, Marianne and PDG Vitt Gutierrez  
Lower photo: With President Renato Rongcal of RC Southern Pampanga and spouse, Pres. Elmer Hernandez of RC Mabalacat, with Assistant Governor Zaldy Alegre (Cluster 3-B District 3790)

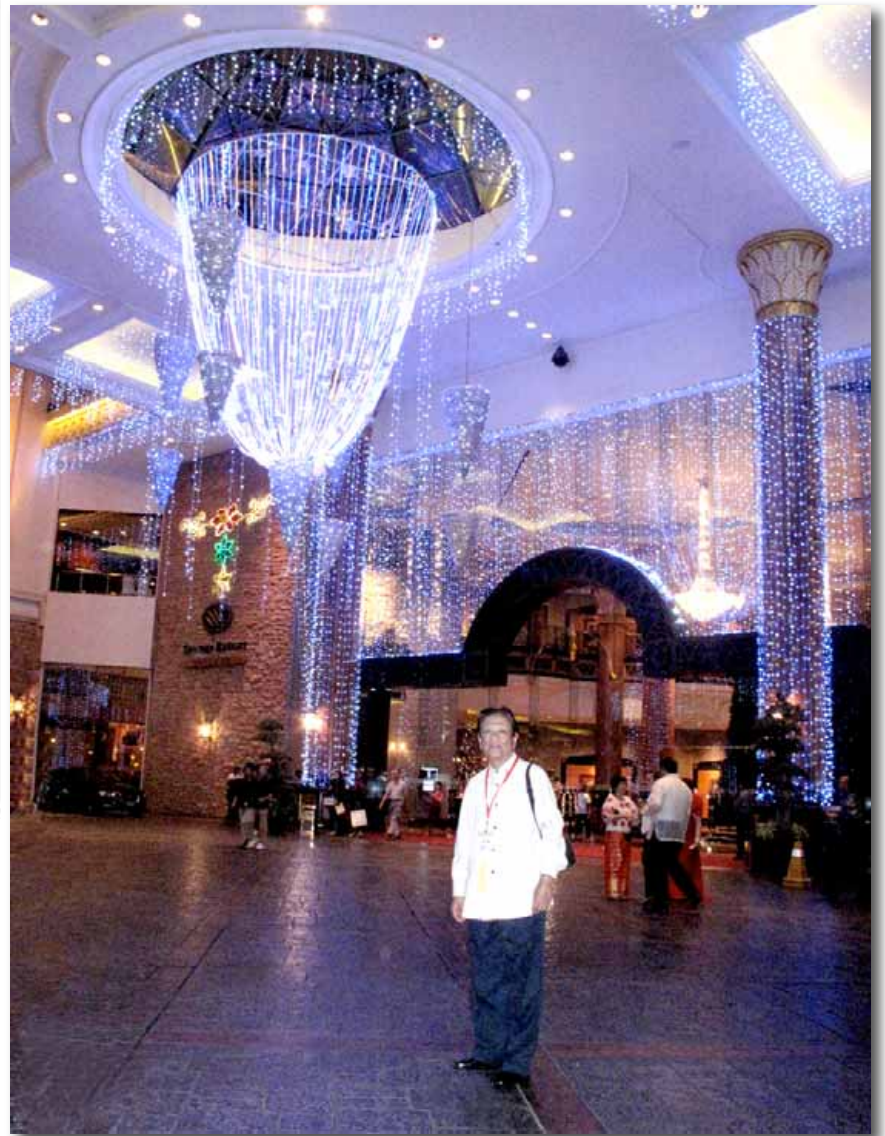




*At Left: Josie with Gladys Pang of Singapore and Mariana Burongoh of Kota Kinabalu*

*Below: Ben posing in front of the special Rotary Wish Tree especially decorated with 1,000 colorful origami cranes handmade for the Zone Institute. On the last day, at the Grant-A-Child a Wish project, 200 under-privileged children had a Brunch Party with the Spouses and the 200 Teddy Bears displayed earlier beneath the tree were given to the eager recipients.*





*Above and below: Josie and Ben posing near the brightly-lit fountain near the Sunway Resort entrance.*

*At Right: Ben in front of the Sunway Resort entrance beneath the bright Tivoli lights making an early colorful Holiday display*





*Above: With IPDG Digna Ragasa and and Carole after the International Night Dinner*





*Above: Prior to departure for the airport we posed before this gigantic Christmas tree at the Sunway Lobby*