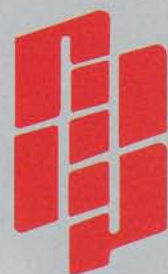


TEACHERS'

Always There For You

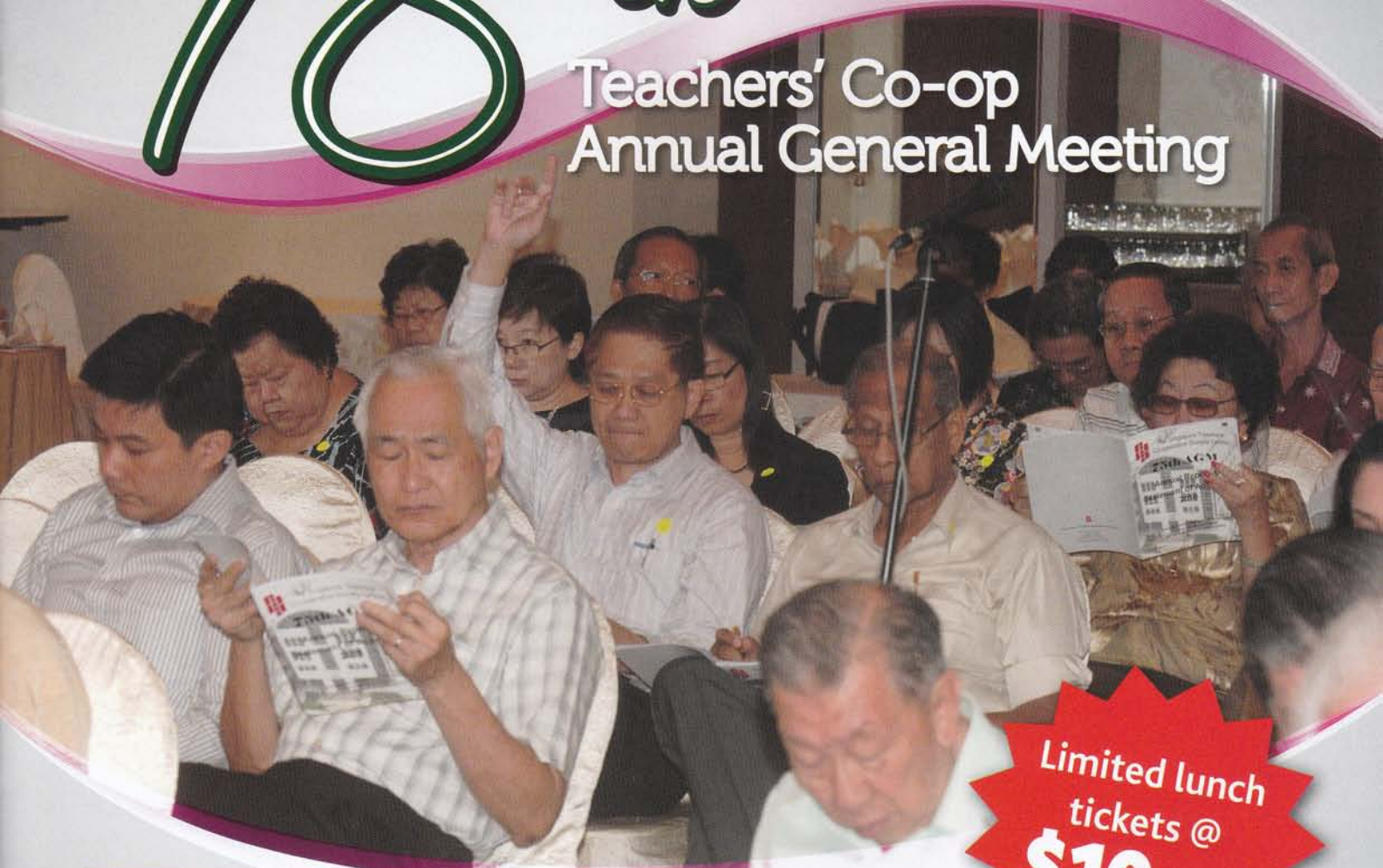
News



78th

A Newsletter for The Singapore Teachers' Co-op Members
MCI (P) 030/02/2014 Jan - Apr 2014

Teachers' Co-op Annual General Meeting



Limited lunch
tickets @

\$10 each!

The Singapore Teachers' Co-operative Society Ltd

Retreat At Phuket

13 December 2013

Mercure Phuket Deevana



04

Society Year End Retreat



07

Tour to S.E.A. Aquarium by
Ladies' Committee

Date: Saturday, 31 May 2014

Venue: Parkroyal on Kitchener Road

Time: 10:00 a.m

All Ordinary members are invited to attend this important function of the Society. Tickets for lunch after the meeting will be on sale from 21 April 2014 at the Society's office. Reservation by phone calls will not be accepted

Chairman's Message



The contributions and achievements of the pioneers have been highlighted this year. From the government to the ordinary man in the street, everyone has come forth to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of our pioneers towards the success of Singapore. Their dedication, sacrifice, resilience and self-belief have all been well documented.

The many poignant stories recounted by family members, colleagues and others about what our pioneers had done or undergone have tugged at our heartstrings. It is only proper that we give our pioneers the due recognition - and rightly so, because it is they who had laid the foundation for Singapore enjoying its current iconic status.

Even as we laud the work of our pioneers who built our nation, I cannot but help reflect on our own pioneers, who first started the co-operative movement. Our founding fathers' compassion for the sorry plight of their fellow men prompted them set up co-operatives to help workers free themselves from the financial yoke and at the same time inculcate the good habit of thrift. During the early years money was hard to come by and the ordinary wage earners were cash strapped. To alleviate this problem, a group of people set up the first co-operative in 1925. The co-operative was started to save the wage earners from the unscrupulous money lenders who charged relatively high interest rates which the workers could not manage. The co-operatives were able to help these workers by lending money at affordable rates and help them manage their lives better. Today the co-operatives play an important role in contributing to the nation's economic and social fabric by providing services to their members or community at large.

Even today in an affluent Singapore, there are still people who are caught in a financial bind and have no recourse other than to go to the money lenders and get into deeper trouble. The co-operatives are there to help you lighten your financial burden. Why not join a co-operative and help yourself?

The Singapore Teachers' Co-Operative not only offers loans at competitive rates but also helps you save money. Join the Teachers Co-Op and reap the benefits. I also want to urge the practising teachers to volunteer their services to the Co-Op by joining our various committees and help in the management of the Co-Op. We believe that as a strong, cohesive and vibrant co-operative, we will not only be able to help you but also contribute to the growth of the country's social capital.

Wishing all the very best for the year.

Richard Zaccheus

Thank you President, Ms Chan Lai Fung



Ms Chan Lai Fung, Permanent Secretary (Education), stepped down as the President of the Society with effect from 26 February 2014.

The Committee of Management wish to thank her for her guidance and advice during her tenure as President of the Society.

Welcome President, Mr Neo Kian Hong

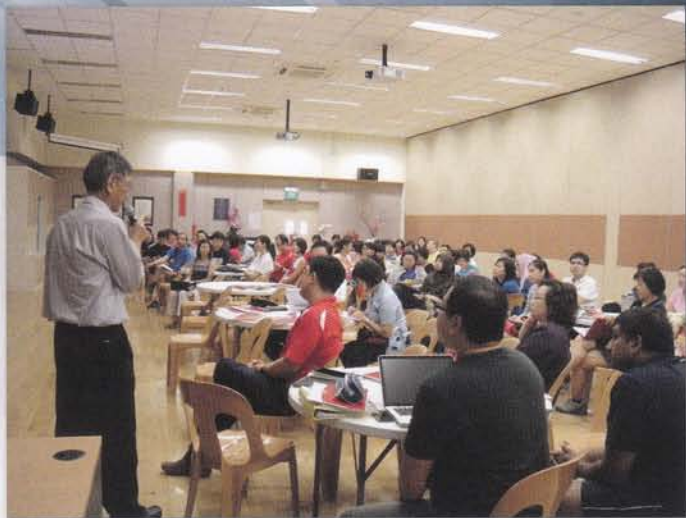
Mr Neo Kian Hong, Permanent Secretary (Education Development), Ministry of Education, had accepted the Society's invitation to be its President with effect from 10 March 2014.

The Committee of Management members look forward to working with him to steer the Society to greater heights.



Membership Drive

The membership team was at Hong Wen Primary School on 21 February 2014 to give a presentation to more than 100 staff of the school. Staff were briefed on the benefits of becoming a member and the services provided by the Society.



Senior Manager making his points to the staff



All eyes were glued to the corporate video



Principal of Hong Wen helping to explain the benefits of becoming a member

Assumption Pathway School - 26 February 2014



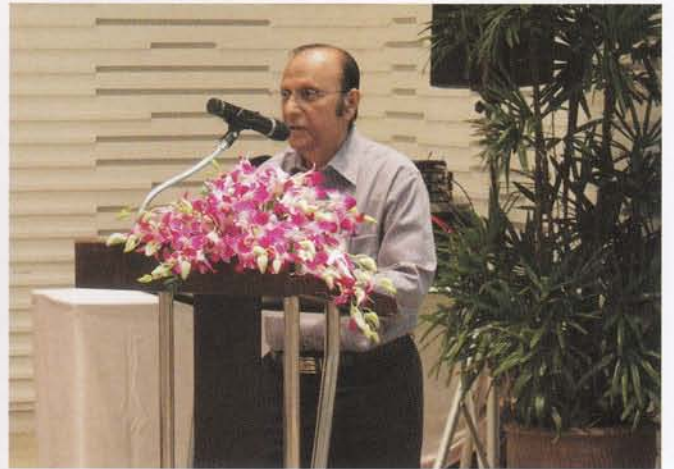
Mr Willy Kang, the Society's IT/Admin executive explaining to key members of Assumption Pathway School about the Society's membership recruitment drive.

Society Year End Retreat at Phuket, Thailand

27 members comprising of the 1st Vice President, Mrs Brenda Tan, Committee of Management, Ladies Committee and staff were at Phuket, Thailand for an year end retreat from 12 -15 December 2013. The Theme for the retreat was "Growth and Development For The Co-operative".

The Chairman, Mr Richard Zaccheus requested the participants to focus on the following during the break out session:

- ▶ How you would grow the membership base and make the Teachers' Cooperative brand name more visible so that it has an impact on the teaching fraternity.
- ▶ How the Loan Committee is going to promote the loans to the members as this is our core business. You may want to re-look at your loan policies and rules.
- ▶ The Investment Committee must be happy with the new directive regarding the investment restrictions. You may want to introduce new strategies which will be in compliance with both the society's policies on investments and the regulatory framework.
- ▶ The staff form an integral part of the society and hence play a significant part in the performance of the society. I would like to urge the staff to deliberate on the following:
 1. Are you prepared to multitask, while retaining your core duties? Being able to handle different jobs, will really enhance your potential and productivity.
 2. Build your capacity and capability to become more proficient and efficient in your area of work.
 3. Are the senior staff willing to share their expertise and experience with their juniors so that there is a seamless transfer of knowledge amongst the staff.
 4. Are you ready to ensure that the new IT shared services takes off smoothly by being prepared to cooperate and collaborate with the vendor, other co-operatives as well the facilitators. This new system must work so that we can provide better services to our members. We must not forget that with the advent and ubiquity of technology, information gets transmitted and shared immediately and the multiplier effects are tremendous. An effective IT system will definitely enhance our efficiency and provide added value to our members.





Opening address by the Chairman



Panel speakers

The 1st Vice President Mrs Brenda Tan summed up the retreat's proceeding with the following:



1st Vice President Mrs Brenda Tan

1. Stop worrying. Worry kills life.
2. Begin each day with a prayer. It will arm your soul. It doesn't matter which religion you are. Everyone prays.
3. Control appetite. Over-indulgence clogs body and mind.
4. Accept your limitations. All of us can't be great.
5. Don't envy. It wastes time and energy.
6. Have faith in people. Cynicism sours the disposition.
7. Find a hobby. It will relax your nerves.
8. Read a book a week to stimulate imagination and broaden your views.
9. Spend some time alone for the peace of solitude and silence.
10. Try to want what you have, instead of spending your strength trying to get what you want.



Participants at the retreat

NIE - Teachers' Investiture Ceremony

National Institute of Education (NIE) Teachers' Investiture Ceremony was held on 14 January 2014 at Nanyang Auditorium, NTU.

Officials and staff of the society were present at the ceremony to answer questions individually from the graduands with regard to membership application. Quite a number of graduands signed up as members right away.



Would be members making enquiries



Potential members

The Singapore Teachers' Co-op Childcare Centre 23rd Graduation and Concert 2013

This year 21 children graduated from our Centre. We were honoured to have Mrs Ken Oh as our guest of Honour.



Our happy graduates displaying their graduation certificates



Out of their graduation gown, transformed into Cheerleaders, K2 dancers performed a cheer leading dance



The Concert grand finale with all the participants and distinguished guests singing Christmas carols, to end the show



A toast for a successful and enjoyable concert



Tour to S.E.A. Aquarium by Ladies' Committee

The trip to the S.E.A. Aquarium at Resorts World Sentosa organized by the Ladies' Committee was very well received. 39 members and their friends visited the aquarium on Saturday, 22 February 2014.

It was an enriching experience as they set eyes on different species of colourful sea creatures like manta rays, sharks, moray eels, jelly fish etc and learnt about their habitats and feeding patterns. Many avid photographers among the participants were able to capture colourful shots of the sea creatures.



Young and old ready to embark on the tour



After spending two hours at the aquarium, the group left for Riverwalk Tandoor for lunch. The buffet lunch offered a wide spread of traditional Indian cuisine. They had vegetarian and non-vegetarian dishes. The participants enjoyed a hearty meal.

SOCIETY'S MANAGEMENT

PATRON

MR HAWAZI DAIPI

Senior Parliamentary Secretary
Ministry of Education &
Ministry of Manpower

PRESIDENT

MR NEO KIAN HONG

Permanent Secretary
(Education Development)
Ministry of Education

VICE - PRESIDENTS

MRS BRENDA TAN

(Principal, retired)

MR GOH EK PIANG

(Deputy Director of CCAB, retired)

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

CHAIRMAN

Mr Richard Zaccheus Bains

1st DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr Fok Kim Fook

2nd DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr Allan Tok Wei Cheng

HON. TREASURER

Mr Chua Poon Guan, PBM

1st HON. ASST. TREASURER

Mr Chern Meng Hock

2nd HON. ASST. TREASURER

Mr Loo Choo Beng

HON. ASST. SECRETARY

Mdm Elene Lim Lan Hiang

MEMBERS

Mr Chua Sian Kay

Mr Lai Yeok Chun

Mr G Anthony Samy, BBM

Mr Peter Tan Swee Chong

Mdm Patsy Ng Moi Sng

Mr Raymond Poon Siow Leng

Mr T Subramaniam

SENIOR MANAGER

Mr Teo Chor Kai

INTERNAL AUDITORS

Mr Chan Wah Guan

Mr Phua Chin Hong

EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITOR

Mr Teo Chor Kai

MEMBERS

Mr Richard Zaccheus Bains

Mr Fok Kim Fook

Mr Peter Tan Swee Chong

Mdm Patsy Ng Moi Sng

Mr Loo Choo Beng

TEACHERS' CO-OP NEWS

A Publication of

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DESIGN & PRODUCTION BY

Axxa Design & Print Pte Ltd

Announcements

Changes in Loan Interest Rates

With effect from 1 April 2014, the following interest rates on Medium Term Loan will apply:

Loan Amount	Maximum Repayment Period	Loan Interest Rates
≤ \$10,000	42 months	3.5% p.a.
> \$10,000 - \$20,000	42 months	4.5% p.a.
> \$20,000 - \$30,000	54 months	4.5% p.a.
> \$30,000 - \$50,000	60 months	5.0% p.a.

Update Personal Particulars

Members are requested to update their mailing address, contact details and email address with the Society, for ease of correspondence.

Fund Transfer to the Society via Internet Banking or Cheque Deposit

Please inform the Society of any fund transfer via internet banking or cheque deposit in favour of the Society, so that your accounts can be promptly updated.

Nominee

Have you made a nomination? Please call the Society if you need a form. You may also download this form from the Society's website.

Continuation of Membership

Members who have retired or resigned from the Education service are requested to inform the Society in writing so that the Committee of Management can approve their continuation of membership as required by the Society's By-Law No. 4.16.1

No Pay Leave

Members who go on no pay leave are required to inform the Society of their status in writing as the Society needs to update their transaction records.

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