

IEM 2004 OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY 9 MAY 2004,

DEWAN TAN SRI MAHFOZ KHALID JABATAN KERJA RAYA, JALAN SULTAN SALAHUDDIN, KUALA LUMPUR

Reported by: Ir. Khor Hock Keat, Chairman of Open House 2004

The annual IEM Open House was held this year on the second Sunday in May. This event is organised annually by the Standing Committee on Welfare and Service Matters as a function to promote fraternity amongst IEM members, their families and the IEM Council and Excom. This year IEM is also fortunate to have the Deputy Minister of Works, Y.B. Dato' Mohd Zin bin Mohamed grace our Open House function. The IEM President as well as Y.B. Dato' Mohd Zin each gave a short speech on the occasion of this event. Amongst the Council Members present were Ir. Prof. Dr Ow Chee Sheng, Ir. Dr Gue See Sew, Ir. Prof. Ishak bin Abdul Rahman, Ir. Mohd Aman bin Hj. Idris and Ir. Choo Kok Beng.

Historically, the Open House had been organised to celebrate on one



joint occasion, IEM's anniversary, as well as the major cultural and religious festivals like Hari Raya, Chinese New Year and Deepavali. The month of May was chosen as IEM was registered on 1 May 1957. Until recent years, the Open House had always been held at Bangunan Ingenieur in Petaling Jaya. As Open House attendance grew commensurating with IEM membership, the space at the IEM Penthouse became increasingly constrained. Thus in 2002 we ventured out for the first time. JKR which traditionally had close liaison with engineering and IEM was identified as a suitable venue. Henceforth we have been there three

times. We record here our utmost appreciation to the JKR staff and management for having consistently supported IEM.

The Open House is an occasion for members and their families to meet informally over lunch, to promote fraternity and to better understand IEM. Amongst the delicious food served buffet-style this year were chicken satay, roti jala, sotong kangkong, tau foo bakar, penang

rojak, asam laksa, fried kway teow, ice kacang, fresh fruits, etc.

Some ten years back, IEM considered the encouragement of excellent academic performance and approved the awarding of prizes to members' children who have outstanding results in the SPM and STPM examinations. This year, some 7 STPM and 63 SPM students were awarded cash prizes of which 40 attended the Open House to collect their prizes and certificates from the IEM President.

As the presence of IEM family members were encouraged, the Open House always had activities catering especially for members' children. Cartoon

shows used to be the norm when the function was celebrated at Bangunan Ingenieur, but with more space available at the JKR hall, we started introducing live stage entertainment in 2003. Everyone, especially the children, appear to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves watching the comical antics of Cha-Cha the Clown. He was so good that we again engaged his services this year.

This year an additional activity in the form of telematches was introduced with the help of our G&S Section. This activity was introduced to provide an alternative activity to adult members and guests as well as



for the older children. IEM also sincerely appreciates the assistance of G&S in helping with the overall organisation as well as the hall decoration for this event.



Last but not least, IEM would like to record its appreciation for members, secretariat staff and sponsors who have contributed to the success of this function. ■