IEM Open House 2002-2005

By: Ir. Awangku Hidup Bin Awangku Hosain, Organising Chairman

IEM Open House is one of the main activities annually organised by the Standing Committee on Welfare and Service Matters. The main function of IEM Open House is to give opportunity for Council Members to meet IEM members and their families, to meet old friends and to foster closer relationship among members. Giving awards to children of our members who have achieved excellent results in their SPM & STPM examinations on the previous year is also a major part of the function. Beside games organised for the families and their children, variety of food and drinks were served to celebrate the festivals of Hari Raya, Chinese New Year and Deepavali. This annual function is to be held on the first Sunday of May of the year.

Previously, most of the functions were held at the Penthouse located on the top floor of IEM Building at Petaling Jaya. Starting from the year 2002, it was agreed by the Excomm to organise IEM Open House outside IEM Building for the first trial since the Penthouse could not accommodate more than 200 persons. Three venues were proposed for the event. They were MPPJ Hall Petaling Jaya, TNB Hall at Bangsar and JKR Hall at Jalan Sultan Salahuddin Kuala Lumpur. The first selection was MPPJ Hall at P.J. since it is nearest to IEM office and convenient for the Secretariat to liaise with. However, MPPJ could not give the confirmation as the hall was scheduled for renovation on the proposed date. TNB Hall was approached for the second choice but the management could not give the confirmation and also the hall was too big. The final selection was for JKR Hall. Official letter, dated 8 January 2002, was sent to the Secretary General of the Ministry of Works for request to use the hall for the function and was approved on 10 January 2002. The hall was renamed as Dewan Tan Sri Mahfoz Khalid in 2003.

Because of the good response from the members as well its strategic location, the function was held on the same venue for four (4) successive years from 2002 till 2005. The President of IEM in his speech in 2003 proposed to use the hall for the next 10 years.

IEM Open House 2002

IEM Open House in 2002 was held on 5 May 2002. The function was well attended by 287 engineers and their families. Among the programs organised were IEM photo and children coloring competition. However the photo competition was withdrawn because there was no response from the members. Foods were served with a queue system. The expense for the function was RM 8,170.00. The organising chairman for the year 2002 was Ir. Awangku Hidup and the function was officiated by Ir. Dr Gue See Sew, IEM President. A post mortem was carried out and rectifications were done for the following years.

IEM Open House 2003

For the year 2003, the function was held on 4 May 2003. About 300 engineers and their families attended the function. Face painting, sand arts and comedy show entertained by a clown were some of the games organised for the event. This time the foods were served in hawker style. The organising chairman for the year 2002 was Ir. Awangku Hidup and the function was officiated by Ir. Prof. Abang Abdullah Abang Ali, IEM President.

IEM Open House 2004

For the year 2004, the function was held on 8 May 2004. The attendance was slightly more than the year 2003. Similar games and entertainment like the year 2003 were organised for the year 2004 but with additional game for the families. The foods were also served in hawker style. The organising chairman for the year 2004 was Ir. Khor Hock Keat and the function was officiated by Guest of Honour Yang Berhormat Dato' Ir. Mohd Zin Bin Mohamed, the Deputy Minister of Works. Ir. Prof. Abang Abdullah Abang Ali delivered his speech on the day.

IEM Open House 2005

The function for this year was held on 15 May 2005 and was attended by about 300 engineers and their families. Entertainment and fun games for the children, exhibition on career guidance for students were parts of the event. Foods were also served in hawker style. More than 300 applications had been received from SPM candidates and only 53 were selected for the award on the day and 10 students for the SPTM category. The expense for the function was RM 15,520.00

The organising chairman for the year 2005 was Ir. Awangku Hidup and the function was officiated by Guest of Honour Yg. Bhg. Tan Sri Dato' Ir. Hj. Zaini bin Omar, the Director General of JKR Malaysia as well as the President of Board of Engineers Malaysia (BEM). Ir. Prof. Dr Ow Chee Sheng, IEM President also delivered his speech on the day. ■

Ir. Prof. Dr Ow Chee Sheng surrounded by IEM Secretariat and children of Engineers

The Guest of Honour,Yg. Bhg. Tan Sri Dato' Ir. Hj. Zaini bin Omar and Ir. Prof. Dr Ow Chee Sheng having a discussion with senior IEM members

An enthusiastic participant practices his shot