



The Rotary Club of San Francisco West



Meetings: Tuesday mornings, 7:30 a.m., Lakeside Restaurant, Ocean Ave

March 18th

THE NEWSLETTER

2008

WELCOME TODAY'S SPEAKERS

Mai Siriphongphant, Souphalak Souksavath, Kunthy Kann

We have three speakers from [Digital Divide Data](#) (DDD), which bridges the divide that separates young people from opportunity by providing disadvantaged youth in Cambodia and Laos with the education and training they need to deliver world-class, competitively-priced information technology (IT) services to global clients, acquire essential business management skills, and break the cycle of poverty.

Mai Siriphongphanh, Chief People Officer, graduated from the [Australian Graduate School of Entrepreneurship](#) at [Swinburne University of Technology](#) in Melbourne, Australia, and received her MBA in December 2002. She joined the management training in DDD Phnom Penh in July 2003 and came back to her country of Laos to replicate the DDD model in Vientiane. Three years later, the Vientiane DDD office has over 100 employees and provides opportunities and educational scholarships to disadvantaged populations in Laos. In July 2004, she participated in a mini-MBA program called [Global Social Benefit Incubator](#) organized by the [Santa Clara University](#) to promote humanitarian ventures. Her business management knowledge, teaching approaches, and leadership skills give her great strengths in motivating and engaging staff to attain the organization's goals.



Mai Siriphongphanh

Souphalak Souksavath, Finance Director, graduated from the Business School of the [University of Technology, Sydney](#), Australia, in 2003. From 1998 to 2000 she worked for the UNDP project at the [Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare in Laos](#), managing accounting for small and medium enterprises, marketing and training for a European Union bank-training project at the Central Bank of Laos. She now leads the finance team for Digital Divide Data and is also a Global Knowledge Partnership East Asia Regional coordinator.



Souphalak
Souksavath

Kunthy Kann, General Manager, earned his bachelor's degree in 2005 in Human Resource Management from the [University of Management and Economics](#) in Lithuania, and a High Diploma of English from [Pannasastra University](#) of Cambodia in 2003. He worked for two years as an English teacher before joining DDD Phnom Penh in 2001 as operator before being promoted to Team Leader. In October 2003, Kunthy was promoted again, this time to the position of Branch Manager for the Battambang office in Cambodia, where he remained until November 2005, when he became General Manager of DDD's Phnom Penh office. Kunthy has also been awarded a scholarship to study corporate management in Japan, including an internship at Hitachi, Toppan Printing Co., Ltd, NTT.



Kunthy Kann

Next Week's Speaker



Carmen Chu, San Francisco [Supervisor](#), representing District 4, the Outer Sunset-Parkside. Appointed as acting supervisor in September 2007 by Mayor Gavin Newsom, Chu now holds the seat as a full member. She has served in Mayor Newsom's administration since 2004, when she began work as a budget analyst for the Mayor's Office of Public Policy and Finance. She held her position as deputy director starting October 2006. Projects that Chu worked on through the Mayor's Office include Healthy San Francisco — the first-of-its-kind universal health care program for all residents; the 311 Call Center — a centralized point of access where anyone can access services or information 24/7; and the development of long-term fiscal projections for the City & County of San Francisco. Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, Chu is the daughter of Chinese immigrants. She worked in the restaurant owned by her parents. Before serving on the Board of Supervisors, Chu was a consultant with [Public Financial Management, Inc.](#), a private consulting firm that specialized in helping municipalities manage their debt and finance large public works projects, and a policy analyst with the Board of Supervisors [Office of the Legislative Analyst \(OLA\)](#). Supervisor Chu has two degrees in public policy: a B.A. from [Occidental College](#), where she graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa (2000). Supervisor Chu also earned a master's degree from U.C. Berkeley's [Goldman School of Public Policy](#), where she was the distinguished recipient of a [Public Policy and International Affairs Program \(PPIA\)](#) fellowship (2003).