



Wah Yan College Kowloon Alumni Association of Ontario

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Wah Yan College Hong Kong was founded in 1919 and Wah Yan College Kowloon in 1924. Alumni Associations of both Colleges, together with the US (Eastern) Alumni, have planned a four-day programme to commemorate the 80th and 75th Anniversaries of their Alma Mater.

80/75 Celebrations

The four-day program promises to be a success.

Guests of Honour

As of day of press, Fr. Farren, Fr. Zee, Fr. Coghlan, Mr. Raymond Yu and Mr. Goerge Tam have promised to join us for the celebrations.

Fr. Farren was Rector and Principal of our college from 1962~1966. He has been teaching in Wah Yan since 1958 and is now retired. He will arrive on June 30, 1999 and leave on July 5, 1999. He flies all the way from Hong Kong just for the occasion.

Fr. Zee is the School Supervisor of our college. He was our school captain in 1958 and was the first Chinese Jesuit to be ordained in our school chapel in 1972.

Fr. Coghlan taught at our college for many years and was the Rector from 72~77. He was Principal of Wah Yan Hong Kong from 1988 to 1997. In accepting the invitaton, he said, "It is

an honour and I am looking forward to seeing you all."

Mr. Raymond Yu was the former Vice-principal of Wah Yan Hong Kong where Mr. George Tam is now the Principal.

Regrets

Fr. Deignan will be attending a regional conference for Jesuit Provincials in Malaysia. He writes, "With gratitude to you all and wishing you all every grace and blessing. May the celebrations be a wonderful success and a very happy occasion."

Fr. Naylor has declined the invitation as he does not travel. He writes, "Invited to a reunion of the Alumni in Toronto, to celebrate the 75/80 anniversaries of Wah Yan I have opted for another approach. I would speak of the present and mainly of Wah Yan Kowloon."

Members from other Chapters.



Wahyanites from the U.S. Eastern Chapter will arrive by chartered coach on Friday, July 2, 1999 and will participate at all the events on Saturday and Sunday.

Wahyanites from Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton will be here on June 27 and start a 4-day tour of eastern Canada and States. They will return for the full program on July 3 and July 4.

They will stay at Toronto Don Valley Hotel (to be a Crowne Plaza Hotel in summer, owned by Peter Ng, an alumni in Vancouver. Their names will be will be posted on our web-site. They would like to meet as many friends as possible.

Events

Day 1, Thursday, July 1, 1999

Soccer Match of the Century between WYCHK and WYCK will be exciting.



Our team players, graduates from 1957 to 1996, have started their weekly practice. The more energetic ones practise on both Saturdays and Sundays.

After two practices, Raymond Chan told Mr. Ho, "Our chance of bringing home the new Annivesary Cup is very good." The other team captain, Tim Kwan, concurred with his assessment. Tony Wan, the coordinator of the youth group, said enthusiastically, "There is so much to learn from the veterans." The manager, Dermot Chan, said, "sure win."

Day 2, Friday, July 2, 1999



Patrick Lai, our Vice President and organizer of the Golf Tournament, said, "Some members have already applied to their employers to take the day off in order to play. We can accommodate a few more players." He asks members whowould like to play to contact him early. His phone number is (905) 858-0707.

In the evening, there will be a welcome dinner for the alumni from US Eastern Chapter at New World Seafood Reataurant, Victoria Park Avenue, in North York.



Day 3, Saturday, July 3, 1999

Tour of the picturesque Niagara-on-the-lake and visits to the Ontario world famous wineries are definitely for the family. Adults will have free wine-tasting at each stop and children will be treated with juices. Viewing of the Falls is another attraction, while adults will have their entertainment at the Casino. Being Saturday, there may be long line-ups to get into the world where no time is displayed.

**Day 4, Sunday, July 4, 1999**

The day begins with a Mass at the Church of Blessed Chinese Martyrs in Markham at 9:30 am. Wah Yan alumni, Catholics and all, will come to share the joy of being able to celebrate the 80/75 Anniversaries. There will be dim sum brunch afterwards.

Then comes the Diamond Jubilee Gala Dinner, the biggest event staged by Wah Yan Kowloon Alumni Association of Ontario before Y2K. The directors and co-opted members have been working feverishly in the past few months.

The function will be held at Crowne Plaza Hotel. Reception begins at 6:00 pm. Alumni and their friends will have time to view the memorabilia and slide-show to reminisce their good old days at school. Then, there will be an opportunity of picking up a good bargain from a collection of items for silent auction.

At the buffet dinner, a short video show presents the students at Wah Yan today and the interviews of Fathers and teachers. The video will be prepared by Centro TV Ltd in Hong Kong, a company world famous for its animation production of which John Chu, an alumni, is the president.



For entertainment, Sandy Ng, who is in charge of the evening, refused to reveal who the performers are. He would only say, "Come and find out!" He guarantees that it would be very, very good. "This is one way I want to show my appreciation for what I have received from Wah Yan."

There will be dancing to DJ music to conclude the evening.



To help us celebrate this important event in the history of Wah Yan College, Kowloon, Ms Angela Chan, who is the grand-daughter of our founder, Mr. Peter Tsui Yan Sau, has generously provided us with a light and sound crew to ensure us the fanfare of a gala dinner. She will also undertake to create the centre piece for the evening. Angela is a well-known centre-piece designer whose designs are sought after by Toronto charitable organizations. Angela is also the President of Maryknoll Convent School Former Students Association in Toronto. The link between MCS and WYK continues to extend thousands of miles from Hong Kong to Toronto.

Sonny Sie, one of the past presidents, and other class coordinators will be starting to phone members and encourage them to attend the functions.

Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Book

Francis Kwong, a founding member and past president, has kindly sponsored

the printing of a souvenir book. He said, "It will be a book our members would like to read and treasure for years."

Ho Pak Lee of '63, the famous Chinese Artist, together with his son, Eric, a graphic designer, have teamed up to produce the front cover.

A Maryknoll former student, Lorraine Ng, will be the project designer.

Sam Lum of '68 is the chief editor. He promised the book would be ready in time to present to each attendee at the Gala Dinner.

Donations

The Association has received some generous donations from members to sponsor the air tickets for Fr. Farren and Fr. Coghlan. The Board of Directors appeals to all members to continue to help out with cash donations in order to achieve a balanced budget for the four-day event. The association also needs items for silent auction to raise funds for future activities.

Association Activities**Valentine Ball (February)**

The Association Treasurer, Simon Chau, reported at the April Board Meeting, "We have a total income of \$2,882.19 from the Valentine Ball." It was agreed the Association would take part in the Joint Ball in Y2K. Representing us at the Joint School organizing committee are Joseph Wong, Patrick Lai, Gabrial Wong and Tony Wan.

Fung Shui Talk and Dinner (March)

Forty-one people attended. Sandy Ng, spoke for over two hours. He gave them charts and worksheets. He kept them working, while Francis Kwong and

Victor Tong, both past presidents, continued to challenge their teacher and drew roaring laughter and applause from the participants. At the end, people asked when the next seminar would be. Sandy replied, "Ask my manager, Mr. Ho."



Mahjong Tournament (May 1st)

The Tournament started at 2:30 pm. There were 20 contestants to start the first round. It ended up with four finalists to slug it out at 6:00 pm, Albert Wong of '73, Steve Fung of '77, Raymond Chan of '73 and Jim Fung of '73. People were all surprised that Steve came out first to become the 'mahjong king' and won a cash prize of \$100.00. Dermo Chant, the organizer, remarked, "Steve won, because he is younger and can run the distance. Most importantly, the class of '73 were true sportsmen. They did not team up to play against the lonefinalist of '77." More than 30 people stayed behind until 8:00 pm when the dinner began.

It was so successful an evening that people asked Dermot to organize a cruise picnic in the fall.

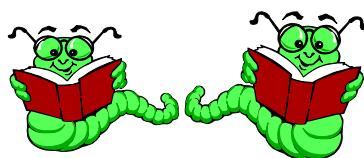
Choir



Philip Kam of '57, Peter Leung of '59, Peter Wong of '61, Sandy Ng of '67, Ambrose Li of '86 and Clement Lee of '95 were all eager to sing. However, the number is too small to form a choir. When there is enough support, Mr. Wilson Hsueh and Jimmy Chan will be willing to help. For the moment, this project will be put on hold.

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Membership



Through the hard work of the Membership Director, Chris Tam of '77, there was a big increase in number of graduates from the nineties. With the help of Tony Wan, their coordinator, the Association hopes it will have a solid base to grow in the next millennium.

There will be a member directory in the Diamond Jubilee Souvenir Book. Chris asks members to send in their updates, if any, before May 30, 1999.

Chris also asks members who have not yet paid their annual membership fee of \$10.00 to send it in together with the registration form for the 80/75 events. The annual fee takes care of the stationery and mailing expenses.

Information Technology

The IT Director, Raymond Leung of '77, has acquired a new name for our web site and E-mail address. They appear in the header of this newsletter.

The webmaster, Ambrose Li, continues to maintain an updated site.

The Association is proud of the fact that greetings appeared on St. Patrick's Day, Easter and Mother's Day in the Home Page.

Retirement

Fr. Zee posts the following on the Internet:

"Mr. Norman So announced at the monthly staff morning tea that four teachers will retire this year. No extensions were granted by Education Department to teachers this year even though we had applied.

They are: Mr. Francis Kong (1961), Mr. Francis So (1966), Mr. Paul Wong (1975) and Mr. Wong Chung Him (1988). Many thanks for their dedicated service over the years.

Mr. Kong will continue to teach some periods on a voluntary basis. He is also keen on giving more individual and remedial coaching. For all these years, he had coached individual students before and after school and during lunch break. That really made a big impact on the life of so many who are all very successful and articulate persons in all professions. The former store-room on the Balcony of the Hall, now renovated, will be reserved for him for such purposes.

Mr. Wong Chung Him will also continue to serve the school part-time in his real expertise in coaching our students in sports.

Mr. Chiu Hai Kaw, classmate of Wong Hin Shing, teacher of biology at Wah Yan since 1970, has organised a staff lunch in early June to honour their retirement."



Mr. Kong will visit Toronto in mid-July for a week. The Association will hold a dinner in his honour. Details will be announced when his itinerary is finalized.

In Memories

Mr. Tang Siu Kong who taught physics at Wah Yan Kowloon from 1963 to 1978 died in Toronto in March this year. He had helped many students sail through the F.5 and F.7 public examinations with Credits and Distinctions. Some of his former students attended his funeral service.

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May, 1999