



Wah Yan College Kowloon Alumni Association of Ontario

c/o 30 Covewood Street, North York, Ontario, M2M 2Z1
 Tel. (416) 222-3020; Fax (416) 496-9357; E-mail: wahyan@wykontario.org;
 Web-site: www.wykontario.org

Wishing You and Yours A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

from

Your Board of Directors

*Gus Yeung (President), Ambrose Li (Secretary), Chris Tam (Vice President), Denis Yin (Membership),
 Dermot Chan, Joseph Wong (Communication), Kelvin Ng, Peter Au, Peter Wong, Francis Kwong,
 Raymond Leung, Sandy Ng, Simon Chau (Treasurer), Sonny Sie (International Convenor), & Victor Tong.*

From our President, 2000~2001:

“Thank you all for trusting me to be the President of your Association for this coming year. I am very honoured to be given the chance, and I hope I will not be a disappointment to you at the end of the term.

One of the first things I would like to do, on behalf of all of us, is to thank Dr. Joseph Wong ('67) for his devotion and tremendous contribution to our Association for the last two years. Under the leadership of Joe, our chapter has once again become vibrant, and activities were well attended by members. It will be a difficult task for me to reach the high standard established by Joe. I am pleased to state that he is staying on as our Communication Director for this coming year.

I must also thank our Board of Directors for their ideas, suggestions, and help to the association in the last twelve months. They played an important role in the direction and activities of the Association. I am again pleased to say that other than the two who had returned to Hong Kong, all of them have agreed to stay on the Board for this coming year. Francis Kwong who was one of our past presidents, and Chris Tam, after a year of absence, are re-joining the board. Having worked with these capable individuals in the past two years, I know I am working with a winning team again.

Last but not least is Mr. Anthony Ho, our Staff Advisor. He is not only our trusted advisor; he is our record keeper, editor, artist, telephone answering service, and many more. Mr. Ho, please accept a big THANK YOU from all of us.

I have a confession to make. I do not know what to do as the President of your association for this coming year. I need all the help I can get. Myself, and the Board are here to serve you. Our graduating classes range from 1929 through 2000. It would be a challenge to us to organize activities to which most of you will attend. Will you please help us out by telling us the kind of activities you would like to attend? Please send us your ideas by contacting one of the directors or e-mail them to us at wahyan@wykontario.org.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.”

Annual General Meeting 2000

by J. Wong

With election clouds looming over the North American continent, WYKAAO undertook the courageous step of calling our Annual General Meeting to elect a new President who will lead us into the new century. The date was fixed: - November 25th, 2000 and the venue appropriately chosen was the Century Palace Restaurant, a name that signifies the dawn of a new era.

To organise the dinner meeting for 90 people was no simple feat. Even the very experienced Denis Yin had to put in countless hours for weeks just to do that.

The evening began with the business part of the function to receive reports of various activities. After their unanimous approval by all members present, the 15 incoming Directors were ready to choose a new President among themselves. Not to be outdone by the lawyers in Florida and to avoid a possible recount fiasco, our Legal Advisor, Sammy Lee, was there to supervise every step of our Election 2000. He collected the ballots and counted them. Everyone was expecting the election result, but wait...were there any dimple ballots or any hanging chads?

After singing our solemn School Hymn, the lavish dinner began. The master of ceremony was none other than our very own professional radio host, Peter Au. His magnetic voice and professionalism captivated everybody and his facetious monologue brought laughter throughout the entire evening.

Wah Yan Hong Kong Ontario Chapter and many other friendly school alumni associations sent their official representatives.

The special guest of honour was Dr. Tak-Wah Mak of the class of 1962. Recently invested as an Officer of the

Order of Canada for his work in the co-discovery of T-cell receptors and his contribution to the research in immunology, Dr. Mak was the first recipient of WYKAAO's Special Achievement Award. His fellow classmate, Peter Wong, humorously introduced him to the audience, followed by a short but meaningful story told by Dr. Mak himself.



(From L-R
Mak Peter and
Mak's daughter)

Sung-Hon Wu, son of Andrew ('67) and Ernest Ho-Ming Wong, son of Joseph, ('67) both passed their Ontario Academic Courses with an overall average of above 80%, were chosen to receive our first ever Scholastic Achievement Awards.

On the occasion of their 40th graduation anniversary, Christopher Yu, Michael Ip, Peter Chu, Reginald Hui, and Sonny Sie of the Class of 1960 were presented with 'graduation' certificates, copies of their Form 5 class photos and WYKAAO tee shirts, beautifully monogrammed with a WYK badge by Raymond Leung's wife. Sonny, alias Frank Sinatra of Ontario, returned the favour by singing his famous song 'My Way' that brought everyone to the floor.

The audiences were treated to a slide show of the beautiful WYK campus and a brief report of the news from the school. Our members were reminded that the needy students can surely benefit from donations to Fr. Kelly's Education Fund, a special fund earmarked for our fellow students in WYK.

Finally, to the dismay of our southern neighbours, Sammy Lee announced that the presidential election ballots were successfully counted and we got a new President! He is Augustine Yeung from the class of 1966.

With official business completed, we all enjoyed a few rounds of free bingo. Throughout the gathering, many guests were lucky enough to win some of our many prizes in the lucky draws. However, the talk of the evening was on the silent auction - six pairs of paper swans, so beautifully handcrafted and donated by Mr. Mui and Miss Gertrude Chan. Every guest also brought home a WYKAAO magnetic calendar specially handmade again by Mrs. Leung and a copy of the book written by Dr. Shiu-Loon Kong of the Class of 1953.

Thanks again are due to Denis Yin for orchestrating the whole event, Peter Au for such superb m-ceeding, Peter Wong for sponsoring the retired teachers & introducing Dr. Mak, Raymond Leung for his computer equipment; his wife for crafting the magnetic calendars and tee-shirt monograms, Mr. Mui & Miss Chan for the paper swans, Louis Lau for his gift of home-grown ginseng, Patsy Sie and Annie Wong for looking after the front desk, registration and gifts for lucky draw, Augustine Yeung for buying and wrapping the gifts, Peter Au for his CCBC decoder, Sammy Lee for his help in the 'presidential' election and of course Mr. Anthony Ho our most revered advisor and many others for such a successful and wonderful evening. You are all true inheritors of the Wah Yan spirit.

8th Wah Yan International Conference 2002 to be held in Toronto
by jw

At their Annual General Meeting on November 18, 2000, our brother alumni of Wah Yan Hong Kong Ontario chapter have officially announced their hosting of the 8th Wah Yan International Conference here in Toronto in the summer of 2002. WYKAAO's delegates were there to cast the deciding vote and were delighted to witness their successful bidding at the Los Angeles Conference in August this summer.

We wish to extend to our fellow Ontario brothers our sincerest congratulations.

This is the most significant moment in the history of Wah Yan movement in Ontario. Please make sure to remain in town that summer to give our brothers all your support. Although details of the meeting are still sketchy, we are confident that our brother alumni will be able to host a very successful and meaningful conference for Wahyanites from all around the world, please stay tuned for details.



(Joseph Wong congratulating Kelvin Tsang, President of WYHKOOA in LA after his successful bid to host the Wah Yan Conference in 2002)

“2001: An Odyssey of Love” Joint Schools valentine Ball *by jw*



With a high tech modern theme of "2001: An Odyssey of Love," the upcoming Joint Schools Valentine Ball will be held at the Metropolitan Convention Centre on Saturday,

February 10, 2001. It is going to be a fun-filled evening with a sumptuous roast beef dinner complete with all the trimmings, door prizes, entertainment and dance to live music by the Carry-On Band. The master of ceremony will be WYK's own Peter Au. Do come and share an intimate dance with your loved one, treasure those good old days with your school buddies or simply relax and enjoy the performances and experience a truly romantic atmosphere.

Ticket price is set at \$80 per person, one of the lowest in town for a gala of this calibre. The proceeds from ticket sale and advertisements in the

Programme Book remain WYKAAO's main source of revenue which is used to subsidise our various functions for our members. With a thousand guests attending, advertising in the Programme Book can surely bring in excellent business opportunities. Advertisement spaces and tickets are going fast. Please contact your directors for further information. So bring your loved one, gather all your buddies and join us for some real fun and don't forget to help keep our membership fee low. Advertise in the Programme Book.

Wah Yan Primary School?



(The site is on the NE corner where the tennis courts, cement grounds and swimming pool are located.)

Fr. George Zee writes, “The application for changing the lease of the land on Sept. 22nd 2000 was rejected because:

1. Strict guidelines on the use of GIC land that should be used for the benefit of the community.
2. The plot ratio was still too high.
3. Traffic issues.
4. Ecology issues if trees are cut to widen the road.
5. Noise issue for the new housing.
6. Don't want to have precedent.

There was also a stipulation from ED's recommendation that we should become DSS (Direct Subsidy Scheme). That means we'll have more freedom in the in-take and in other ways but we ourselves will have a much bigger financial burden. We could of course charge high fees. That would be against our mission.

We are going to apply for a review that should take place within 3 months (the date has been set for January 18th, 2001) to ask the Full Town Planning Board to consider some of our reasons also. The chances may not be too high.

Failing that, my personal hope is that we could apply to build a proper Primary school (with government subsidy)--if possible, for both Wah Yans. Otherwise there is much pressure to use our land for building a Primary not run by us.

This is only at the brain-storming stage.”

Announcement

“November 10, 2000

Since **Mr. Damien Yue (Boon Leung)** is due to retire next year as Assistant Principal, the School Management Committee has just completed the process of requesting for applicants and interviewing them today. The panel comprised of representatives of the Society of Jesus, teachers, parents and administration. A thorough discussion of the strengths of the applicants was conducted after the interviews and a decision was arrived at by secret ballot. It was the decision of the panel that Miss Eva Chau should be appointed Assistant Principal on the retirement of Mr. Damien Yue.

The School Management Committee wishes to thank all those who did courageously and generously apply for the post urged by the desire to be of greater service to Wah Yan.

Please note that the job of the Principal is not a promotional post. So there is no implication of any direct succession of Vice-Principals becoming school Principals.

Signed:
(Rev.) George Zee, S.J.
Supervisor
For and on behalf of the School Management Committee”

Miss Eva Chow joined wyk in 1991. She has a master degree and is a senior English teacher teaching Forms 5, 6 and 7. She has a lot of initiatives and established the multi-media English

lab with almost a million dollars funding from the Quality Education Fund of the Hong Kong Government. She is also the Chief Advisor of Catholic Association.

A Record Day

On December 1, 2000, 68,858 hit the school site www.wyk.edu.hk. It may be people were interested in the application forms for Form 1.

Activities

In 1999, we had Valentine Ball: "Millennium of Romance", Fung Shui Talk and Dinner, Mahjong Tournament and Dinner, Evening at a Pub, 75th Jubilee Celebrations: Soccer, Golf, Niagara tour, Dinners, Gala Dinner, Mr. Francis Kong's Dinner, and AGM Dinner.

In 2000, we had Valentine Ball: "Heart to Heart", Spring Banquet, Bowling, Floral Appreciation Picnic, 7th Wah Yan Conference in LA, Paint Ball Game, BBQ Picnic, Fr. George Zee's Visitation Dinner and AGM Dinner.

In 2001, what are we going to have?

Top the list, of course, is the Hong Kong Joint Schools Alumni Valentine Ball on Saturday, February 10, 2001. For tickets, please call Joseph Wong, our immediate past president and now communication director, at 905 510 8288 in the evening. Do understand that he is not able to take your calls during the day. You would not expect a dentist to leave his poor patient lying in his chair to talk about the fun of going to a ball! Always most willing to serve his members, Joseph will try his best to accommodate your request

of tickets. With the well being of your Association in mind, he has also appealed to you to solicit advertisements for the Valentine Ball Program Book in order to generate revenue to subsidize our activities.

At the 1st 2000~2001 Directors' Meeting on December 5, 2000, it was decided that there would be a Winter Event. The idea was to combine two successful and well-attended past events together. At a mahjong Tournament in 1999, Steve Fung of '77 was crowned King. After an absence of two years, all forces have openly vowed to dethrone him and will fight to claim his crown. In the year of the Dragon, our retired teachers were honored at a Spring Banquet. There were lots of fun and lots of lucky draws. So, the date has been set on Saturday, February 24, 2001.



There will be mahjong game for the challenging warriors in the afternoon, followed by a Spring Banquet in the evening. All details will be forthcoming in the February newsletter.



At the 2nd Directors' Meeting on January 10, 2001, activities for the rest of the year will be discussed. As is our tradition, all Board Meetings are open to all members. Do come and join in the fun of brain-storming. It will be at #300-3601 Victoria Park Ave. (@McNicoll) at 8:00 pm. It will be over at 9:30 pm, time for a late snack.

Class of '57 Reunion

In October, John Tsai from Stockholm, Dorothy and Desmond Wong from Hawaii and Francis Ho (School Captain) from Montreal were in town for a visit. On a pouring evening, they met with Maisie and Philip Kam, Lilian and Felix Wong from Hamilton, Ken and Beatrice Lo from Brighton, Louis Lau and companion from Schomberg at Champion House in Mississauga. Sonny Sie, their convenor from their junior class, selected a delicious Peking duck dinner for the visitors from far and near. At the table was also Dr. Ip whom John and Desmond have not seen for decades. Invited to share the stories of the good old school days was Anthony Ho who was at their Form 5 graduation dinner held in the open space outside the Teachers' Room during his first year at Wah Yan.

The walk down the memory lane was light-hearted but brisk because the whole group had to dash off to a concert of classical music. Then there was a late night agenda at Louis' farm at Schomberg. They sure know how to enjoy their golden years!

Membership Subscription



Have you sent in your 2000~2001 subscription of \$10.00?

At this time of beneficial acts, we ask you to mail in your cheque to help your Association defray its cost of mailing out newsletters, 230+ for each issue. And, there are 5 issues in a year. Please make it payable to 'Wah Yan Alumni Ontario'. Your cancelled cheque will be your receipt.

Thank you.

