



伊利沙伯舊生會 (安省分會) QESOSA (Ontario)

Newsletter - 通訊

April 2005

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support@qesosaont.ca

Web site

www.qesosaont.ca

How to join?

You may join as Ordinary Member (No FEE required) or as Patron Member (one-time contribution of Can\$50 only). Details in web-site. Please send email to above address to provide your details or call any director (phone numbers of some are given on the inside pages of this newsletter).

QESOSA Mid-Year Event - 2005

The last event -- the AGM dinner held on January 22, 2005, was, unfortunately, greeted by a 15-centimeter snowstorm. Still, we had sixty participants, which is a very good result! Thanks to the zest of our members, and friends from OSAs of BPS, QC and KC too! Do visit our web-site to share the fun of that evening if you were unable to come.

To meet the desire of those who missed the AGM dinner, our next gathering will be held a little earlier than usual, and we cordially invite your participation. It will be a buffet lunch event held in Toronto at the end of May, with details given below. We hope you will come to meet our fellow alumni and bring your family to enjoy the fun.

P.S. The directors do recognize that church gatherings usually take place on Sunday mornings, but hope that members with time conflict can adjust their church attendance plan a little bit and come to this lunch.

Place: China Buffet King, Quality Inn, 22 Metropolitan Road,
Scarborough. Tel: 416-321-6868



Date/Time: Sunday, May 29, 2005.
11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Program: Slide show – “Virtual
World Tour”
Bingo games with prizes

Cost: \$18, which includes buffet
lunch, pop, tea/coffee, taxes,
and gratuity.
\$8 for children 12 and under

Registration details on page 6.

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Message from our new President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Lately my family had the chance to dine at the mezzanine of the New World Palace Restaurant at 3600 Victoria Park Avenue. As I stood beside the glass window which oversees the banquet hall on the ground floor, my mind returned to my first visit of this mezzanine floor about 11 years ago -- it was the QESOSA(ONT) AGM dinner, my very first attendance of the Association's function here in Ontario.

Time certainly flies! Year after year, I have been enjoying the efforts of the Board of Directors. From the casual fun-filled spring/summer events to the formal AGM dinners and the special ad-hoc events of Mr. Hinton's visits, not a single one has disappointed me. Through the opportunity to serve on the Board, not only have I seen, but also felt the unconditional dedication of the Board members. This reminds me of something really familiar -- it is the QES spirit! And this spirit has spread to different parts of the world! For a new immigrant like me in the first couple of years, it definitely meant a lot, like finding a home away from home.

This year I have the honor to serve the Board again and become the President of the Association. Our dear past presidents have set very good examples for me. I know how inadequate I am, but with the other Board members' support and contribution, I am confident this year that, when you join the Association's functions, it would be another year of precious moments spent.

Erica Fong (81)

Your Form Representatives

56	James Chan	(905) 273-7166
57	Pun Yip-Kai	(416) 492-5005
58-60	Au Chi-Sing	(416) 496-9585
61	Selwyn Chow	(905) 471-3363
62	Thomas Liu	(905) 579-9054
63-64	Leung Yat-To	(416) 293-3781
65	Theresa Lai	(416) 229-0238
66-67	James So	(416) 250-8267
68	Tang Fu-Wah	(416) 321-0326
69	Tang Lui	(905) 475-2825
70	Tam Ka-Chuen	(905) 727-6244
78	Roger Kwan	(416) 250-1385
90s	Milton Chan	(416) 964-8556

Footnote: This title was the catch phrase used by PhoneBusters in launching their newest pamphlet on Fraud prevention. PhoneBusters is Royal Canadian Mounted Police's anti-fraud call centre aiming to fight all fraud crimes.

千奇百騙，新招舊橋齊出籠。
認真對付，做個精明快樂人。

Many years ago, I donated to a bogus charity. I could not say "no" to help sponsoring the inner city children to summer camp programs when my own school-age children loved those programs. I was fully employed and if, for \$20, I could help some children to have a real summer holiday, why not?

Since 1996, I have been on a speaker team of volunteer presenters at Volunteer Toronto. We go all over Ontario to give free talks on fraud prevention in various languages.

During the presentations, I have related many spiteful stories from collected news clippings and have heard more terrible ones from the audience. So very often, I read familiar news headlines reporting crimes of scams and frauds, only to find that those same scenarios happened again and again in other locations to new victims. One thing that remains constant though, is that the monetary amounts involved just keep going up and up.

Currently, the most devastating form of crime that is on the up-rise is Identity Theft. In 2003, about 14,000 Canadians registered complaints on ID theft with a reported loss of 21.6 million dollars. Pictured clearly in a CTV documentary program "W5", the interviewed victims suffered extreme emotional and psychological stress as well as financial loss. Even though in most cases the victims were proved innocent and did not have to bear the burden of repayment, it cost each victim on average about \$1,000 and hundreds of hours time to "clear" his/her name from the black-lists of the credit checking agencies, for example. Still, that may not be the end of the story, for very often, these ID thefts are carried out by organized criminal parties. The victims need to follow up periodically and check his/her records from time to time because, who knows when the next phoney ID card will surface!

"If it is too good to be true, it probably is!" This is our usual motto to help us to avoid scams. However, it cannot prevent us from becoming victims of ID thefts, because greed on our part is not the cause of you and me falling into the trap of ID thefts. More importantly, care and attention given to what's happening around you may save you a lot of grief and money.

There are many ways the criminals can get your personal information. According to the police, there are quite a few common forms of enablers, making you the unknowingly willing/unsuspecting participant of the crime. Please watch out for the following more common ways used by criminals:

- Dumpster Diving** – Unshredded documents, blank cheque books, letters and envelopes will reveal your name, address and other personal information.
- Shoulder Serving** – Beware when someone is hovering over you at the ATM or the store checkout counter when you key in your PIN number. In particular, watch that guy who is holding a cell phone (with built-in camera) near you, trying to take a photo of your credit or debit card.
- Tomb-stoning** – Criminals tour the cemeteries to choose someone of similar age and background to make a convincing clone. Another way the criminals can get access to personal information is through obituaries. Often, there is too much information about the deceased's history and background, including family, education and work.

(Continued on next page....)

Phishing –

Think twice before giving out your personal data over the internet. This well-publicized method used by criminals has proved to be lucrative for them to steal personal information. Many well-educated professionals have been victimized because of their unsuspecting nature, busy schedules and hectic life. Recently, my husband was approached by a phoney Citibank web-site asking him to update his bank record on the internet. My husband simply hit the “Delete” key without hesitation. Though it was unfortunate for the crooks this time, as we already knew about this scam and we did not deal with this bank, we were worried that other fellow citizens might fall into their trap. Just imagine, if you receive some seemingly “urgent” message from your own bank, wouldn’t it be just natural to respond right away? Remember, they all look so genuine and sound so important!

In our July 2003 Newsletter, I have written an article on Identity Theft with prevention tips. For refresher, please feel free to log on to our OSA website’s Newsletters segment. If you would like to arrange for a free group presentation of more in-depth information and prevention on fraud and scam, please contact Volunteer Toronto’s “ABCs of Fraud” program, Tel: (416) 961-6888.

In addition, you are welcome to join me at the East York Civic Centre on Wednesday, May 18th as I will be one of the presenters on “The ABCs of Fraud” at a B.A.S.S.I.C. Symposium and Exhibition. Detailed particulars of this and other symposiums on the same topic are given below.

It is high time for us to say “NO” to frauds and scams, let’s act on it!

Bringing an Awareness of Senior Safety Issue to the Community (BASSIC)

Three “Seniors’ Safety Symposium & Exhibition” sessions organized by the above group will be held in the next couple of months around Toronto. Seniors, caregivers, professionals, and family members will benefit from this one-day safety information and interactive program, which highlights the community safety issues of importance to all seniors. Programs include presentations on “ABCs of Fraud” by Volunteer Toronto, “Daredevil?” by Sunnybrook and Women’s College Health Sciences Centre, and “Older and Wiser” by Toronto Fire Services.

The particulars of this one-day BASSIC symposium are as follows:

Wednesday, May 18th at East York Civic Centre (860 Coxwell Ave.)
Wednesday, May 25th at Bernard Betel Centre (Steeles and Bathurst)
Thursday, June 9th at Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre

These are FREE seminars. Please register early. For reservation, please call Jennifer at Volunteer Toronto, (416) 961-6888 ext.226.

HELP !! --- Delivery Option of Newsletter

To preserve our environment and to save printing and mailing costs, we are now offering you a choice of receiving future newsletters by email or by post. The email option means that we will send you just a message and a “link” and ask you to read or download the newsletter from our web-site, using Adobe Reader (which is free). If you can use email, please send a message to gesosaont@yahoo.ca stating your name and graduating year (Form 5). In any case, we will continue to mail you the newsletters if you have not chosen the email option. We thank you very much for helping us.

If you need assistance on the technicalities of using email or the web, please don’t hesitate to call any director, or your Form Representative (who will route your questions to the directors).

Static electricity in Petrol Stations

With the generalisation of self-service facilities in petrol stations, people should be warned about the outbreak of fires resulting from static electricity while they are pouring in petrol.

150 cases of this type of fire have been investigated and the results were very surprising.

- 1- Of the 150 cases, more happened to women than men, due to their habit of getting in and out of the vehicle while the petrol is being poured in.
- 2- In the majority of cases the people had re-entered their cars when the hose was still pouring petrol out (the danger of the triggers on the nosepieces). When they finished refuelling and got out to remove the hose pistol the fire began, as a result of the static electricity.
- 3- The majority of those affected used rubber-soled footwear and clothes of synthetic fibres.
- 4- Never use mobile phones when filling up with fuel.
- 5- It is well known that it is the vapour that comes from the petrol that burns and causes the fire when it makes contact with static charges.
- 6- In twenty-nine of the cases analysed, the people re-entered their vehicles and later touched the pistols during the petrol fuelling process. This happened in cars of different varieties of makes and models.
- 7- Seventeen fires occurred before, during or immediately after the cap of the petrol tank was removed and before starting to fill up with petrol.
- 8- The static charge often results from when a passenger **rubs their clothes against the upholstery of the seats on getting in or out of the vehicle**. To avoid this, it is recommendable that NOBODY gets in or out of the vehicle while the petrol is being poured in. Movement in or out should only be done BEFORE starting, or when the fuelling is finished and the petrol cap placed.
- 9- MAXIMISE THE PRECAUTIONS if the petrol has spilt or splashed onto the ground. Highly inflammable vapours are immediately produced which can be ignited by sparks of static electricity from the turning on of electronic equipment (mobile phones, remote controls, etc.) or by the ignition of the vehicle itself. **BEFORE starting up the engine again, the spilt petrol must be gathered or neutralised by the petrol station staff.**

LOADING PETROL

IN YOUR VEHICLE:

Stop, put the handbrake on and turn off the engine, radio and lights

NEVER:

Never return to your vehicle while you are pouring in fuel.

AS A PRECAUTION:

Get used to closing the car door on getting out or into the vehicle and in this way the static electricity will be discharged on touching something metallic.

After closing the door **TOUCH THE METAL PART OF THE BODYWORK** before touching the petrol pump pistol. By doing this the static electricity in your body will be discharged on the metal and not on the pistol.

RESPECT THE SAFETY REGULATIONS

With the compliments from Shell Co.

May 29th Buffet Lunch

Registration Form (overleaf)



Registration for 16th Anniversary Lunch on May 29, 2005, at Buffet King

Registration and inquiry can be placed with:

Daniel Chow	905-886-7203	Nancy Tang	416-515-9919
Chan Chi-Hung	416-226-5810	Selwyn Chow	905-471-3363

Please confirm your attendance no later than May 20, 2005. Kindly mail your cheque to QESOSA (Ontario), c/o Daniel Chow, 11 Highbridge Road, Richmond Hill, Ontario L4B 1Y2. Please make cheque payable to QESOSA (Ontario). Thank you. (If paying at the door, cash will be more convenient for this event).

-----Cut here (or write details on piece of paper) and mail the following details with cheque -----

Name: (Chinese) Year (Form 5)

Telephone: (Home) (Work)

Number of Adults (\$18 each) Children 9 or under (\$8 each) Children 3 or under (\$4 each) ...

Total amount remitted for party: \$