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Join us

All past QES students, whether residing in Ontario, Canada, or elsewhere, are welcome. You can join as an Ordinary Member (no fee required) or as a Patron Member (one-time contribution of CA\$50). Details are posted on our website. Please email us, or call any of our directors or form representatives.



2012 Spring Lunch & Talk

Date: April 28, 2012 (Saturday)

Location: Regal Palace 富豪金閣
350 Hwy. 7 E., Unit 101, Richmond Hill
(Bayview / Hwy. 7)

Program: Talk + Q&A by Mr. Roger Kwan, CGA

11 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

Topic: How to prioritize RRSP, TFSA & RESP to achieve your financial goals and tax savings

11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. Lunch

1:15 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Topic: How should baby boomers strategize their investments for a secured retirement

Cost: \$18 per head

Registration: Before April 21, 2012. Please see page 6 for details.

Inquiries: Chan Chi-Hung (416-226-5810), Barbara Yang (647-288-8270), Ivy Yan (416-889-4062), or email support@qesosaont.ca

Website www.qesosaont.ca
Blog www.qesosaont.ca/blog1
Email support@qesosaont.ca

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Message from the President

It was with mixed feelings that I accepted the position of the President of QESOSA Ontario. On the one hand, it is such an honour to be able to serve our alumni in the region; on the other hand, I feel challenged by this important role. Our past Presidents have done such amazing jobs that it would be very difficult for me to measure up to them. Fortunately, I had the assurance from our advisors, our board members, and Barbara, our past president, that they would support me wherever it was needed. This helped put my mind at ease.

Looking back, the year 2011 was a very busy one. We had many activities, both formal and informal. Many of these activities were organized with the aim to expand the participation and involvement of our members. Our communication and network facilities have been enhanced to allow more 'up-to-date' modes of interaction. I suggest that you continue to use our blog and website, and make them a media where we can exchange ideas and share thoughts.

In 2012, I see that we will continue to thrive with the same goals. QESOSA Ontario is very much your organization. We need your support, involvement, and participation. If you can help out, please let us know. If you have any special needs, and any suggestion in terms of activities, events, or functions, we would love to hear from you. Please do not hesitate to contact myself, any one of our board members, or your FA representative.

We have planned a series of activities for this year. Due to the overwhelming response from last year, the Spring Lunch And Talk will return this year. On April 28, we will have talks given by our very own Roger Kwan. Please see page 6 for more details of this activity, and don't forget to register at your earliest convenience. This year, our Association will also be hosting the Joint-School BBQ on July 21. A slight variation from previous years is that we will hold it on a Saturday, with the hope that more of you can join in. It will be a day of summer sun, with good food and good friends. Please plan to come out and join us, and meet some of the alumni from the other schools! We also need your help, e.g., grilling food, on that day to make it a success. If you would like to help out, please talk to us. And, of course in the fall, tentatively planned for October 27, we will have our AGM. More details will come forth in our next newsletter. Stay tuned!

Thank you and wishing you a very joyous and prosperous 2012!

Looking forward to seeing you in the functions planned for this year!

Ivy Yan (FA71)

**Scenes
from the
2011 AGM
Dinner,
held on
October
15, 2011**



Barbara Yang presenting Certificate of Appreciation to guest speaker Neville Lau.



The popular lucky draw.



Board of Directors and guests from fellow government schools.

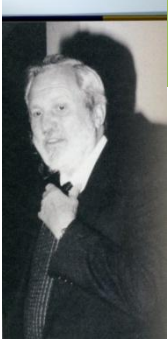


Last year's QESOSA Ontario Dr. A. Hinton Scholarship was awarded to a student at QES Tong Kwok Wah Secondary School.

For a full report and more photos of the 2011 AGM, please go to our blog.

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| April 28 (Sat) | Spring Lunch & Talk
11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Regal Palace 富豪金閣
350 Hwy. 7 E., Unit 101,
Richmond Hill
(Bayview / Hwy. 7) |
| July 21 (Sat) | Joint-School BBQ
Milliken Park,
Scarborough |
| Oct 27 (Sat) | 2012 AGM Dinner
(Details to be confirmed) |



I first met Mr. Chamberlain in 1955 when he arrived in Hong Kong to join the staff of Queen Elizabeth School. Mr. Cheong Wai Fung, the Principal of QES, asked me to meet him and to see that he settled down in the hotel to which he had been allocated until he could find government quarters. In fact I did not need to do more than welcome him as his elder brother, who worked in the PWD, was there to meet him. I invited him to my home with his wife and children for lunch a few days later and thereafter we became good friends, a friendship which lasted long after we had left Hong Kong.

Mr. Chamberlain soon proved to be an excellent teacher of Mathematics and a valuable colleague who established friendly relationships with both students and colleagues. A keen hockey player and for many years a stalwart of the Hong Kong hockey team, he introduced hockey to the school and soon recruited an enthusiastic team of hockey players. He was not only a gifted teacher and sportsman but an outstanding educator, concerned about the development of his students as people, not only as students who passed their examinations.

After a few years in QES Mr. Chamberlain was transferred to Northcote Training College (later renamed College of Education), but then in 1967 he returned to QES as Principal when I was transferred to be Principal of Northcote. I was sad at leaving QES but was delighted that he was to take my place, knowing that the school was in good hands.

I was disappointed when only three years later he was moved from QES to be the Principal of Sir Robert Black College of Education, yet this had fruitful results for the Colleges. Thanks to our eagerness to co-operate and our friendship with the Principal of Grantham College of Education, Mr. Kwok Wai Man, also a former teacher at QES, we were able to introduce valuable improvements in the Colleges, particularly in the method of selecting students. We now did this jointly instead of each College conducting its own separate selection procedure. Moreover, in our meetings in the Education Department we were able to speak with one voice, having decided beforehand on our policy.

After Mr. Chamberlain and later I retired we remained in close touch. He and his wife stayed with us in Vienna and we with them in England and later, when he became ill, I was able to visit him a few times.

Mr. Chamberlain contributed much to education in Hong Kong and, through his personality, enriched the lives of those who came in contact with him. I am grateful to have had the privilege of knowing him.



Please share with us your thoughts & memories of Mr. Chamberlain. Join us at our blog www.qesosant.ca/blog1

Fifty Years

Henry Lee (FA61)

Fifty years is half a century. It was about this time, half a century ago, that we received the Hong Kong School Certificates – all 127 of us, constituting the class of 1961 (FA61), Queen Elizabeth School. We had reached a major turning point in our lives. Less than half would stay on for two more matriculation years leading to university. Others would go on to vocational or professional training, before joining the work force. Still others would start working right away. That was a time when send offs at the Kai Tak Airport, for the lucky few embarking on studies overseas, were fairly frequent events. The farewell scenes on board the S.S. President Cleveland and S.S. President Wilson were most unforgettable. The romance of friends sailing across the Atlantic, to the far away New World, cast lasting memories on our impressionable young minds.

The Class of 61 are now mostly retired grandparents. They have left their marks in life-long professional careers, as academics, and as leaders of business, industry, and government services. They are scattered all over the world. Sadly, a few have passed away. For ten days last month, some of us gathered in Hong Kong for our 50th anniversary reunion. It was an experience of a life time. It certainly warrants a brief account for all, especially for those who were not able to attend all or part of the activities.

The Reunion Week kicked off on November 2nd, with a lunch at the New Century Plaza, right next to QES. There was a good attendance of about 40, in an electrified atmosphere filled with excitements of lost friends seeing each other again for the first time since school, and of old friends simply not seeing each other frequently enough. Yelling of old nicknames filled the room; there was so much catching up on the times past.



A short walk to QES, through the soccer field back-gate, followed. Camera clicking intensified on the way, as we tried to capture the look of our school today. Memories of our youth of yesteryears gradually emerged. The two Assistant Principals, Mr. Tam and Mr. Tse, and the Career Mistress, Mrs. Liu, together with other staffs, gave us a welcome with the full treatment, which included a commented video of today's QES, as well as archived pictures featuring most of us. Shouts like "THAT'S ME, third one left on the second row!" were repeatedly yelled out many times, with the same teenage passion and enthusiasm of fifty years ago. Look at those handsome lads with their full heads of hair, and the pretty girls with not a blemish on their faces. Yes indeed, memories are made of these. The visit was concluded with a fully guided tour of the school, the new wing, the new facilities, the whole works

In the evening, small groups gathered for intimate dinners. These were precious moments, especially for those who would not be able to attend the main event coming up on November 4th.

Thursday November 3rd greeted us with beautiful weather, giving us a perfect day for our outing to Lamma Island. Most of the 30 of us made the two-hour walking tour from Yung Shue Wan to Sok Ku Wan, where we had an excellent seafood lunch at the famous Rainbow Restaurant. While the majority stayed for a tour of the Lamma Fisherfolk's Village, which is highly interesting and educational, a few rushed back to town for a "mahjong tournament".

The big day finally came. Friday November 4th started with a Yaumati Form 1 Reunion Lunch at the Commissioners Club of the Scout Association of Hong Kong. There were only a few new faces, as most had gone on to QES after Yaumati. The 35 in attendance pretty much had an encore of the lunch two days ago, with the same excitement and enthusiasm.

Soon after the lunch, people started moving straight to the Shatin Jockey Club. It didn't take long for the mahjong tables to fill up. The video and slide shows ran non-stop. The wine started to flow. Music of the early sixties filled the rooms, only to be interrupted by the karaoke songbirds. The evening was informal but elegant, structured yet congenial. The resolution to make a commemorative video was quickly adopted. The speeches were short and heartfelt. After fifty years, fifty of us had a hell of a party.

As the cliché goes: Never in the history of QES FA61 have so many owe so much to so few. These so few are: Brenda Cheng, Y.K. Chan, Robert Ho, Robin Luk, Ko Yuk Yee, Nancy Lau, Susan Leung, Diana Chan, Wong Wah Kay, and others whom we might have missed or who simply worked behind the scenes.

Y.K. and Mimi Chan enriched the reunion program by arranging a 52 ft. yacht for a boat ride on Sunday, retracing our canoe trip in the summer of 1961. The veterans of that pioneering excursion of so long ago, and the people taking the upcoming Sanya-Vietnam cruise, were invited to the Chans' residence Saturday evening, for dinner and pre-trip warm-ups and planning. No more needs to be said about their extraordinary hospitality.

The half-day boat trip was every bit as adventurous as our seven-day canoe trip in the summer of 1961. The open sea was rough, and it was probably the last chance of the season for such a trip. Dr. Muk Noong Cheng provided the most helpful and important tips on sea-sickness. Passing through the Geopark rock formations was an eye-opener - something we had missed while struggling to manoeuvre our 12 ft. canoes back then.

For several months before the sail-date, the Sanya-Vietnam cruise had also run into rough waters. The local travel agency was incredibly incompetent, uncooperative and bordering on unethical. But then, all it takes is for none other than our own

7-distinction girl Brenda Cheng to arrive Hong Kong a little earlier to team up with Mimi Chan, add a few spoonfuls of the old QES spirit, and sort things out nicely for everyone.

The day in Sanya was rainy. But by then a few drops of water wouldn't have been an issue anymore. The sea was rough as usual, and the port visit at Hue/Danang was cancelled. As it turned out, it was a blessing in disguise. That day was formal night, and everyone got to rest up, dress up and had a wonderful evening at the Captain's reception and formal dinner.

Halong Bay was the last port-of-call. Instead of an eleven-hour excursion to Hanoi, the group opted for a scenic boat ride, or a countryside visit of local rural family, regrouping at a local restaurant for some excellent and inexpensive seafood. After the meal, we walked back to the cruise ship along the seashore.

Looking at the cruise ship alone, the Royal Caribbean Legend of the Seas offers nothing to write home about. Compared to other ships in the Carnival, Princess, Norwegian fleets, and not to mention the mega Royal Caribbean Oasis, one could easily enumerate a dozen shortcomings. Yet this cruise could be ranked the best I have ever had. I know, deep down, my travel companions made the entire difference.

Any 50th anniversary would likely be a once in a life time affair. Ours has been so memorable and eventful in so many ways, it simply cannot possibly be duplicated. Yet everyone is now all worked up on future reunions, annual and five-year smaller affairs of course. To lead the way, and to assure success, Brenda and Muk Noong agreed to look into hosting the next one, possibly a Panama City/Caribbean Cruise combo in January of 2013. Southern Ontario and California may also be good hosting sites. Now that the story is told, would future reunion hosts and excursion organizers please stand up and be counted?

Run for the Cure - Just Do It**

Nancy Tang (FA65)



On Oct 2, 2011, the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation celebrated its 25th anniversary, and I joined the QESOSA Ontario Team to walk at the foundation's annual Run for the Cure event. This was the first time I had ever been at the event, and I would like to share with you some of my thoughts

The day was grey, and the sky was thick with heavy clouds. The overcast gave way to light showers, which occasionally turned into large drops of rain; there were wisps of snowflakes.

Yet the atmosphere was elating and upbeat, among all shades of pink. We could see pink hats, shirts, scarves, bandanas, ties, gloves, pants, socks, sneakers, umbrellas, as well as a cement truck! Blowing in the wind was a sense of somberness and hope -

'somber' in the sense of the graveness of the disease, which has challenged so many families, and has claimed so many lives, and 'hope' in the sense that breast cancer survival rates continue to climb, and a full cure is in sight.

As we reached the event site, we saw big crowds of men and women - young and old, and of many different ethnicities; there were even babies in strollers. People gathered in the school hall, congregated on the open ground, and continually streamed in from the car park nearby.

I had learnt about this event at the OSA spring function. Our new Director Karen Kwok, Captain of the QESOSA Ontario Team, initiated our participation in this Run for the Cure. She brought along her hubby, who acted as our (un)official photographer. Our team also had our own chauffeurs, Chan Chi-Hung and Leung Yat-To, taking us to the event site from our gathering spot.

In the spirit of our school motto of contributing to the community, Barbara Yang, our President, had led us through to this event, this time for a cause that is very much worthy of our time and effort. Our founding President, James Tang, commented that it had been almost twenty years since QESOSA Ontario participated in United Way's Walkathon at the Toronto harbour.

To my greatest surprise, the pledge letter, which I had sent to my friends on my return home just 10 days before the walk, generated great responses. I am forever grateful to my friends' and family's charity spirit.

Two days before the walk, my physiotherapist who had been treating my hip pain gave me the go-ahead, but cautioned me to take it easy - walk, don't run!

I kudo to my school friend Anita Chu, who is a QESOSA Ontario member now living in sunny California. She had just got off a redeye flight to Toronto for a family gathering, and bravely came straight from the airport to join her sister Irene Ho and the QESOSA Ontario team for the Run. Good job, Anita!

At the 1 Km point, we were given a choice of continuing on, or turning back, i.e. to brave the cold and rain for the remaining 4 Km, or to quit right there and then. The choice was easy!

We walked through highways, on country roads, and through a park with a beautiful garden, a waterfall, a gazebo, and a bridge over running stream. Our team reached the finish line in just one hour.

The team gave up the goodies offered at the reception tent at the event site and opted for a dim sum lunch with our very own QES cheering team, headed by our VP, S.K. Tang.

We were a relatively small team, but we exceeded our fundraising goal of \$1,000.00 by a huge margin. The total funds raised for the Run was well over \$3,000.00.

p.s. When I received an invitation to a post-event party on Nov 8 for the top 100 walkers with most funds raised in 2011 for the York Region's Run for the Cure, I had a feeling of "double happiness". First, I had helped to make a difference. Secondly, I know I am in good health, having walked the 5K and being among the lucky ones continuing an active life style.

p.p.s. Our team donation got another boost because the company Karen's husband works for would match his final funds raised. It is wonderful to see companies with community and charity spirits!

****** The use of this title was inspired by our guest speaker, Neville Lau, at our Annual General Meeting dinner. He said that there was nothing new in his talk, and that anyone with time could find all the materials on the internet. Repeatedly, he stressed that the way to good health was simple: Participation, or Just Do It!

**REGISTER
HERE**

Registration for Spring Lunch & Talk on April 28, 2012 (Saturday)

Please confirm your attendance no later than **April 21, 2012**, by completing and mailing in this form, together with a cheque to: QESOSA (Ontario), c/o Chi Hung Chan, 7 Simeon Court, North York, ON, M2K 2N6.

**** Please make cheque payable to QESOSA (Ontario). Thanks.****

Name: _____ Chinese: _____ Year (F.5) _____

Tel: _____ Email: _____

Number attending: _____ x \$18 Total amount remitted: \$ _____

Alternatively, you may confirm by email to support@qesosaont.ca, or by phone to any director, and then pay cash at the door. Please recognize that we organize this event with no cost margin to cover off variations in registered attendance. We would be obliged to call for full payments for no-shows or late cancellations past the deadline.