

Dec 2009

Global Reunion San Francisco 2010

Dear LSCOBA Chapter Presidents and Officers,

LSCOBA San Francisco / Bay Area Chapter is privileged to invite you to join us at the **2010 LSCOBA Global Reunion** to be held on July 1-4, 2010 in San Francisco Bay Area, USA. Your fellow old boys are truly inspired by your remarkable accomplishments, and we would be honored to have your presence at the *Reunion* weekend.

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter is the proud host of the 2010 LSCOBA Global Reunion. The Reunion events will be held in the city of Pleasanton, one hour east of San Francisco International Airport and home to many fine wineries and prestigious golf courses. We expect to host 300 old boys from all class years around the world, and we have arranged a series of events for you and your guests to participate.

The *Reunion* weekend will commence with the conference hosted by the LSCOBA Global Alliance on Friday, July 2nd. The conference will feature high-profile alumni as well as distinguished faculty members from La Salle. This year's conference will be a lively and rigorous debate on popular topics affecting the future of our alma mater. True to the La Salle tradition, alumni soccer stars around the world will compete in the 2-day *LSCOBA World Cup*. We have also arranged private vineyard tours, local sightseeing tours, and golf outings for you to enjoy.

You can register for the *Reunion* via our event web site, <u>www.lscobasf.com/reunion</u>, starting Monday, November 2, 2009. If there is anything I can help answer, please do not hesitate to contact me or any *Reunion* committee members.

We look forward to hosting you in the beautiful San Francisco Bay Area.

Yours Sincerely,

EPHREM FUNG President



Merry Christmas & Happy 2010

Reminders

Edmonton

Monthly Dim Sum Gathering

Date noon Dec 4, 2009 (every first Friday)
Venue Century Palace Restaurant

/enue Century Palace Restaura

金漢龍廷大酒樓

Christmas Party

Date Saturday Dec 12, 2009
Time 6:00 pm – 9:00pm
Venue Kings Noodle & Hot Pot

10939-101 Street

Contact Bill Wong billshwong@shaw.ca

Southern California

Monthly Dim Sum Gathering

Date noon to 2 pm, every first Sunday

Venue Empress Harbor Seafood Restaurant

111 N. Atlantic Blvd., 3/F, Monterey Park

Cost: \$15 per person

\$10 Children and full time students

Toronto

Annual New Year Eve Dinner

Date: Thursday, December 31, 2009 Venue: Century Palace Restaurant 世紀阜宮大酒樓

398 Ferrier Street, Markham

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Price: \$60

For tickets, please contact any director or

Jimmy Chang

Email: icchang@mcl-miley.com

Cell: 416-219-6556

Chris Fong

Email: shihanqfonq@yahoo.com

Cell: 416-838-3664

Vancouver

Christmas Dinner

Date: Friday, December 18, 2009 Venue: Golden Harvest Seafood Restaurant

(金稻)

Main Street & East 32nd Ave

Tel: 604-321-4448

Limited underground / street parking

Time: 7:00 p.m Price: \$30

RSVP: Joseph Ng by Dec 11, 2009.

josephkmng@yahoo.com



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Chapter News

Toronto

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Jimmy Chang Email: jcchang@mcl-miley.com Cell: 416-219-6556 Chris Fong Email: shihangfong@yahoo.com Cell: 416-838-3664

菜單

海運乳豬件 上湯雙龍蝦 百尾輾蟹柑 清蒸大碧穀 福禄鳳凰蒂子 瑶柱鷄炒飯 蟹肉鷄絲翅 鲜藤焼伊麺

Fall Mahjong Meet

Kevin Kwok (1988)



Left - Right

Standing: Charles Yip 71; George Remedios 64; Francis Yeung 71, Tony Pomeroy 71; Paul Au 71; Ambrose Wong 71

Seated: Louis Pomeroy 41; Peter Fung 71; Raymond Chan 71, Raymond's sister Shirley

The Fall 2009 Mahjong tournament was held on Saturday 7 Nov 2009, with over 20 players. It was a sunny and peaceful afternoon but the game was not calm at all. Players of many generations, from class of 41 to class of 94, were present.

This was the second mahjong tournament held in 2009, and this time we were glad to have Tony Pomeroy (71) securing a troop of 71ers to participate in the game.



L-R:Jack Leung (66), Audrey Chang, Maria Lui, Janet Leung, Christina Choy, King Choy (66), John S.K. Lee (66), Henry Lui (66)

The saying "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going." really described the sentiment of Vincent Koo (74) who won 1st runner up, his 2nd time for this ranking. What fate!

Louis Pomeroy (41) astonished all the participants when he came 4th in the final. Champion and 2nd runner up went to guest players Edmond Wong and Victoria Shum respectively. John Yeung (73), our all rounded golfer, earned his first title in MJ competition as the winner of the best sportsmanship award.

37 people attended the prize presentation dinner and it was worth mentioning that Raymond Chan (71), who visited Toronto from HK, extended his trip by a day to attend this gathering. Finally, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to our referee, Danny Au Yeung (67), and to Peter Lau (69) who secured the nice venue and food.



Danny Au Yeung (67), John Yeung (73)
Best Sportsmanship Award!



Vincent Koo (73), 1st runner up, Jimmy Chang (President)



Edmond Wong (guest), Champion, Jimmy Chang (President)



Serving in Uniform

In Part 1, William recounted how he became an officer in the Canadian army reserves and described his work in the Canadian military. In Part 2, he continued with an account of his progression in his military service, culminating in deployments to the Former Republic of Yugoslavia with the Canadian peacekeeping force. He narrated many of the anecdotes in his travels in the worn-torn Balkans. In Part 3, William depicts the most harrowing in-theatre incidents he encountered. He then reflects on his own military service and makes some observations about military service in general. Finally, he pays tribute to those who helped him in his service and those who made the ultimate sacrifice while in uniform.

Editorial Board

A Personal Journey: From the 17th Scout Troop (La Salle) in Kowloon to Canadian Peacekeeping in Yugoslavia (Part 3)

William Lai (1961)

Baptism of fire

In the three deployments, my team members and I had conducted debriefings in all kinds of terrain and conditions. We had done group debriefings beside minefields, in cramped OPs, in mud, along the side of roads allegedly favoured or watched by snipers, and on one occasion under direct artillery/mortar bombardment. On one of these trips, a colleague and I were holding a debriefing session in a half-destroyed building in a Canadian OP compound. While the debriefing was going on, suddenly rounds of shell fire came down hitting the compound in several spots. So, half way through a debriefing, we had to run for our lives to a bomb-shelter. The barrage was over quickly and nobody was hurt in that short attack. But it apparently made history. I was, I believe, at the time perhaps the only Canadian licensed psychologist who was doing professional work under live, hostile fire. I also learnt later that my colleague and I were the first Canadian PSOs to be under live fire since the Second World War. Whether these claims are really true, I have no way of telling. But in any case, the live fire experience that I had was certainly pale and minor compared to what the front line soldiers then and today would face.

This little encounter with hostile fire brought home the fact that the so-called peacekeeping missions undertaken by Canadian soldiers were fraught with risks and dangers that most citizens back home did not realize. Quite a number of Canadian soldiers gave their lives on these "peacekeeping" missions. We had a first-hand experience of such an incident on one of our tours. On this particular deployment, the very day that we arrived in theatre, a Canadian sapper was killed in a mine strike. It was a gloomy start of our tour. We did some debriefings with his colleagues. Later on, his unit held a ceremonial wake for this soldier with a burning mockup Viking ship as the deceased was of Scandinavian ancestry.

Medak Pocket

The most dramatic and graphic of the three tours of duty was the time when the team was called out after the 1993 Medak Pocket incident in Croatia. The incident went unpublicised for quite some time but has since been given much attention in the media and books have been written on it. Those interested can find many references to it through an Internet search. I will not recount the entire incident but will only briefly describe our experiences in relation to the incident.

In September 1993, The Croatian forces swept through the area known as the Medak

Pocket occupied by the Serbs. The Canadian contingent stationed in that area was tasked to implement a cease-fire between the Croats and the Serbs. But the Canadians were prevented from entering the area and negotiations did not work. But just outside the Pocket, the Canadians could hear explosions, gun-fire and screams in the Pocket. The standoff with the Croatian forces eventually ended in a fire fight between the Canadians and the Croats, before further negotiations settled things down. Most people believe the current war in Afghanistan is Canada's first combat encounter since Korea. But the Medak Pocket incident was actually the first



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large-scale combat for the Canadian Forces since the Korean War. It was reported that the Croats suffered a number of fatal casualties while the Canadians had no fatalities. For whatever reason, the incident was not well reported at the time. The actual events at Medak were of course more complex than what I have just described. Please consult the related literature if you are interested in learning more about this episode in the history of the CF. A documentary film was also made of this incident.



Another scene from Medak Pocket

As the unit involved, the Second Battalion of the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry (2PPCLI), came from LFWA, our debriefing team was called out immediately after the Canadians had taken control of the area. When we arrived on the scene, parts of the village were still smouldering, carcasses of dead farm animals were still in place where they were shot, and spent cartridges and shells still laid at the spots where the weapons were fired. All the buildings in the area were destroyed or severely damaged. The interior of whatever remained of houses had the appearance of having been ransacked. Household items, personal effects and family photos of weddings and family gatherings which had been hanging on walls were broken and strewn about on the ground. In one heavily damaged house, I remember, a pot of potatoes was still sitting on the stove, seemingly waiting for the cook of the family to finish preparing for supper. We could surmise as to the fate of the occupants, likely dragged out of the house and

slaughtered while waiting for dinner. When we arrived, most human bodies had been removed, but we could see the places where the killings and massacres had occurred. We were witnessing, in real time, the results of ethnic cleansing.

Canadian peacekeepers were not supposed to be engaged in fire fights with local warriors. But on this occasion, they did for justifiable reasons. But their heroics were not recognised until 2002 when the then Governor-General of Canada, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, awarded the Commander-in-Chief Unit Commendation to the unit and service medals to the unit members. (For non-Canadians who might not be aware, Ms Clarkson was a Chinese immigrant, nee Poy, who came to Canada from Hong Kong with her family at a very young age and rose to become the Queen's representative in Canada and the Commander-in-Chief of the Canadian Forces. She became a very endearing figure for CF members.)

In this brief mention of the incident, I cannot do justice to the courageous Canadian Forces members involved in that horrific event. The following three-part documentary by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) journalist, Carol Off, paints a much more vivid picture of the Medak Pocket incident than I can ever do.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-AvcKJnx9I

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NagIYPnJZ4&feature=related

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M6z4pD4jvM8&feature=related

The Price of Standing On Guard For Thee

If one cares to peruse the subject, one would find that Canada has a very illustrious military history. Her citizens have always responded successfully to challenges brought on by the world's turmoils. Until recently, all of Canada's wars were fought by citizensoldiers, and Canada has never lost a war. Even with a full-time Regular Force army, the missions undertaken by the CF always contain a large portion of reservists. In Canada, unlike some of our allied militaries, reserve soldiers are not "called up" for active duty and reserve units are not deployed as self-contained elements. It would take an Act of Parliament to mobilise the reserve forces. Individual reservists have to volunteer for these missions and there is never a shortage of volunteers. The Canadian tradition of depending on citizen-soldiers continues to this day.

With this background of Canadian military eminence, it was sad to see that some denizens knew little of or misunderstood their own defence forces. When I was travelling in uniform on military business, I had been variously mistaken as a hotel doorman, a security guard, a vending machine repairman, and other caricatures that I didn't care to register. It was disheartening that people actually could not recognize the uniforms of their own army. I also had friends who had their military identification cards refused as a source of personal identification.

Perhaps some of the problem could be attributed to a policy at the time of keeping a low military profile. While we could travel in uniform on military business, we were not supposed to wear our uniform otherwise. There was no hope of a half-price movie ticket deal in uniform. In the course at the National Defence College mentioned earlier, we would go to class in uniform but would immediately change back to civilian clothes after class. The students of the course were subdivided into smaller groups to work on various battle plan projects. There are always a number of foreign students from allied forces in these courses. In my group was an US Marine. One day, we decided to do some shopping after class as a group. The US Marine member was ready to go shopping in his



uniform as soon as class was over. But we, the Canadians, had to tell him that we were not supposed to wear our uniforms shopping and that he had to wait for us to change our clothes. This little contrast kind of highlighted the differences between Americans and Canadians in how they perceived their respective armed forces and members therein.

Even highly educated citizens sometimes have a rather distorted view of the military. I was working in the psychology department of a large hospital when one of the FRY deployments occurred. I used holiday and leave time from the hospital to go on that tour. A few days before I left, I was walking with the department head, a very qualified Ph. D., and the subject came up that I was in the reserves and that I was going on this tour. He then turned to me and asked, not even half-jokingly: "Are you an authoritarian personality?" I chose to ignore that misguided question.

At other times, I was referred to by certain colleagues, and not always in jest, as a war-monger, a trained killer, and a command and control freak as taught by the army. On occasion, I was seen as someone who would use psychological warfare on people because of a combination of psychology and military backgrounds. That misconception reflected ignorance and to me that was really laughable. Psychological operations, or PSYOPS, require specialized theory, training and procedures. It is not something that one can do just because one has a degree in psychology.

There were many other misconceptions about the military that we had to deal with from time to time. One of these misunderstandings was that the military was a very rigid organization run by disciplinarians who only know how to order people around. Some people in the military are fond of saying that we are here to defend democracy, not to practise it. In reality, input from soldiers are often sought prior to many decisions being made by superiors.

It is true that the military is and attempts to be extremely well organized with a definite hierarchy and authority. The nature of the work requires that structure. It is often said that the side that wins the battle is the side that is least disorganised. Military training emphasizes administrative competence and effectiveness. But don't tell that to your boss on civvy street. One of my fellow reserve officers told me that he once implemented an administrative procedure at this civilian workplace that he had learnt from his army training courses. He said that, as long as he didn't tell his co-workers he had learnt that from the army, they thought he was a genius. But as soon as he let it out that he had transferred some of his military organisational skills to the job, his ideas were pooh-poohed.

It is interesting to note some of the contradictions about the military. While it is a very structured organisation with seemingly unforgiving rigidity, it is also a highly flexible one that relies on cooperation. One of the principles of war is flexibility. Battle plans seldom work exactly as planned and the ability to improvise and adjust to ongoing changing circumstances is critical for the unit and individuals to survive. In contrast to the image of an order-driven assemblage, team-work, cooperation and motivation are emphasised in all military training. Simply barking orders at your subordinates just does not work. We were often confronted by people who did not have this understanding and assumed that we all military members were stiff, order-happy ruffians.

Perhaps one of the most serious consequences of having survived a military operation is the difficulty in readjustment to normal life. Traumatic incidents can lead to PTSD, as noted. But even without being afflicted with this illness, operational experiences can lead to changes in one's perspectives on the world that may have practical consequences. I can use a personal example. As narrated earlier, our debriefing teams had conducted debriefing sessions under all kinds of adverse conditions. After returning from these tours, I would resume working with other psychologists in my civilian job. Some of them would express great concern about having to perform two consecutive debriefings on the same day on occasion. And I was thinking: "I was doing debriefings and travelling between sessions under circumstances of great risk to life and limb and we lost count of the daily sessions we would conduct. And you complain about doing two sessions in air-conditioned comfort? Come on now." I have never said that overtly, of course, but I might have appeared to be less sympathetic than expected. Certain "critical incidents" can drastically change one's perspectives which are not easily understood by those who do not have the same experience. Those changed views can lead to social isolation, interpersonal conflicts and personal maladjustment. For me, the problem I just described was minor and easily corrected. But for those who had suffered severely traumatic experiences, the consequences can be much more serious, permanent and life-altering. Some people cannot ever recover from the traumas they have suffered in a theatre of war, and that is an enormous price to pay for serving one's country.

The ultimate price of Standing On Guard for Thee is of course one's life. We have had quite a number of Canadians who have lost their lives in peacekeeping and recently in Afghanistan. We will remember them.

Epilogue

So, this particular part of my personal journey had taken me from sweeping the grave of an adopted grandfather who sacrificed his life in the defence of Hong Kong to operating in a war zone myself. Early on in this journey, the experiences in my formative years at



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La Salle and the 17th Kowloon group played a significant role in shaping my orientation towards service, discipline, camaraderie, and stamina which were to put me in good stead as a member of the Canadian Forces. I did have a satisfactory military career after all, even if somewhat short and belatedly so.

In penning this piece, I have tried to relate my personal experiences. The views expressed are entirely mine and this article was not written on behalf of anyone else. The accounts and impressions that I described above are reflective of what I experienced at the time of my service in the CF. Things change and develop through time and some or all of the observations that I made may or may not still be valid. Public opinion towards the Canadian military has significantly improved since my time in the service, and there have been public outpourings of appreciation of and affection for service members. The negative reactions to service members as I

described may well not exist anymore.

I hope I had made a valuable contribution to the Canadian Forces with my relatively short service. But it can be difficult to assess. The debriefings we conducted, for example. We don't really know if those steps had made any real impact on the soldiers at the time. We were by no means perfect and sometimes we did wish we had done things differently. But that was part of the learning process and what was remarkable was that we were part of the pioneer effort in advocating and bringing into reality the type of services to which every Canadian soldier is entitled, despite the resistance and skepticism we sometimes faced. Persistence did pay off. The original set of policy and procedures are likely forgotten and have faded away. But there is no denying that what we did was embryonic to later developments in the provision of mental health services to CF members. Before I left the service because of other commitments, I was given a Commander's Commendation



Commander's Commendation

"in recognition for his outstanding contribution to the development and implementation of Critical Incident Stress Debriefing policies and practices throughout the Area and at the Army and national levels, and for his leadership in developing Personnel Services in the Area".

I cite this award as a symbol of the achievements we attained in the Western Area. But I had excellent support and help from superiors, subordinates and fellow officers without whose involvement I could not have accomplished any of the things that I allegedly did. I thank them for their assistance and dedication.

We few LaSallians in uniform

Though there may be few, but I am certainly not the only LaSallian who has served in a military. We all know that there were LaSallians who made the ultimate sacrifice in uniform. I would like to pay tribute to these LaSallians as listed on pages 82-83 in Mark Huang's Sons of La Salle Everyone and those who for whatever reason were not included in this listing.

Lest we forget

While my story contains a small connection between Hong Kong and the Canadian Forces, there was a much more significant association which sometimes might not be as prominently known as it should be. I am referring to the despatch of The Royal Rifles of Canada and the Winnipeg Grenadiers to defend Hong Kong in the Second World War. These units suffered greatly in the Battle of Hong Kong and its aftermath. The surviving veterans, or Hong Kong Vets as they are known, continue to be revered in Canada to this day. For readers who may wish to learn more about this episode of convergent Hong Kong/Canadian history, I would recommend the following links:



http://www.vac.gc.ca/content/history/secondwar/asia/canhk/hongkong e.pdf http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3qi8f ww2-hongkong-1941-part-1 shortfilms http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3qiek ww2-hongkong-1941-part-2 shortfilms http://www.dailymotion.com/video/x3qieo ww2-hongkong-1941-part-3 shortfilms

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."



Winston Churchill, 1940



Story Behind

The History and Formation of La Salle Old Boys Association Toronto Chapter Danny Au Yeung (1966) / Chris Fong (1974)

Old boys started coming to Toronto in the early 60s, if not even earlier. Initially they were mostly university students. Then some of them stayed after graduation to make Toronto their new home. By the mid 70s, more and more old boys immigrated from HK to Toronto with their families, including young professionals, businessmen, and even retirees. As the population of old boys in Toronto grew, the number of old boy gatherings also increased proportionately,

Wouldn't it be a good idea to build a network of contacts and a platform for mingling and connections?

On this thought, Peter K.P. Leung (52) and Dennis Ho (61) initiated the idea, and along with several other old boys, started to work on building such a platform. In addition to being an old boy, Peter also worked at La Salle College and La Salle Evening School for a very long time and was well connected in the La Salle community. Dennis had spent time in Melbourne and Winnipeg, finally settling down in Toronto as a stock broker. Dennis visited Brother Raphael and members of the La Salle Old Boys' Association during his trip to Hong Kong in 1986 to present the idea to them, and approval was granted to establish the Toronto OBA officially.

A very successful inaugural general meeting was held on Sunday June 22, 1986, in the auditorium of De La Salle College in downtown Toronto. It was well attended by over 70 old boys, from classes of 40s to 80s. A slate of 14 directors was elected, and the cornerstone was set. The first newsletter was released in July 1986. The first directors included (by class year): Eddy Fong (42), Shiu Wing Lee (45), Peter Leung (52), Yau Lau (52), Anthony Tjon (55), Louis Chan (61), Dennis Ho (61), Michael K.C. Yuen (61), Stephen Leung (63), James La (65), Angelo Lee (65), Stephen Ma (66), Louise Heung (68), and David Sin (69).



First Board of Directors

After 20 years, how many of the first directors can you recognize?

Today the Toronto Chapter has over 500 members in our membership database, including some who have since migrated back to Hong Kong or gone on to other corners of the world.



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Functions and Events

Memorial Service for Rev. Bro. Felix

Our former Bro. Director, Rev. Bro. Felix, passed away in June, 1986. In September,-a memorial mass was organized for our beloved Dai-Chai, which was well attended by students, teachers. Rev. Br. Francis Hagen, Rev. Bro. Xavier and Rev. Bro. Isidore from De La Salle College Toronto, representatives and students from St Joseph College Hong Kong and St Joseph Anglo-Chinese School Kowloon, and Maryknoll Convent School Kowloon were also in attendance.

前 九 龍 喇 痛 = 沙 五 月十 院 校 長 月 日 利 主 期 時 六 修 六 日 士 (Rev. 追

Valentine's ball

"La Salle is something more" is never an overstatement. In 1987 we initiated the organizing of a joint school function with the alumni associations of 7 other renowned Hong Kong high schools, viz. Maryknoll, Sacred Heart, St Joseph, St Mary, St. Paul Boys', St Paul Convent, Wah Yan Hong Kong, and Wah Yan Kowloon, in the form of a grand Dinner Dance Party on Valentine's Day. The glittering gathering was attended by a thousand people, and it was a record breaking social event in the Canadian Chinese community. The self-assertive LS boys (alas, we always are!) had a massive attendance (24 out of 96 tables!). Yet that record was only to be broken repeatedly in the following years.



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Respected Retired Teachers in Toronto

Two of our beloved teachers, Mr. Kon Ting Lau and Mr. Siu Lai Chiu (40), better known as Taipan Chiu, moved to Toronto to join us.

70 old boys celebrated Chiu Sir's 80th birthday in 2001 at a dinner gathering in his honour. Chiu Sir graduated from LSC in 1941 and taught at LSC from mid 40s to mid 80s – a remarkable teaching career that spanned almost half a century. Chiu Sir has since migrated back to Hong Kong in 2008. We dearly miss him and wish him all the best.



Toronto Old Boys Celebrating Chiu Sir's 80^{th} Birthday in 2001

Annual La Salle Day Dinner & Visiting La Salle Brothers from Hong Kong

We hold our annual La Salle Day Dinner on May 15. In the early 90s, old boys gathering to celebrate the feast day of our patron saint also enjoyed karaoke, another channel for us to extend our talent quest.

Both Bro. Anthony Philip and Bro. Alphonsus attended our La Salle Day Dinner during their visits to Toronto in 1989 and 1991 respectively





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Annual Picnics

Since 1986, the Toronto Chapter Annual Picnic has always been held on the last Sunday of August, and all old boys and family/friends are welcome. Cantonese style roast pork has traditionally been the all time favourite, and everything is free!







Mahjong competition, circa 1987



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Weekend Soccer

Soccer games on weekends for old boys, both young and young at heart. From time to time we also play against our good old friends from St Joseph, Wah Yan Kowloon, Wah Yan Hong Kong, and the Salesians, just to name a few.



La Salle Millennium Ball

An extravaganza for the wake of millennium with performance by our old boys (Joe Tang, 74, in photo), and music provided by DJs from the local Fairchild TV Group. Over 250 old boys and guests enjoyed an entertaining evening.



New Years Eve Dinner



Another annual highlight is our New Years Eve Dinner. Over 400 old boys, families and friends gather for the banquet, music, dance, lucky draw, mingling and fun every year. (Directors and advisors join us counting down to the New Year in photo.).



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Celebrating the 70th Anniversary of Our Alma Mater

In 2002 we hosted a three day celebration of the 70th anniversary of our Alma Mater. We were honoured to have Bro. Thomas with us.

During his say in Toronto, Bro. Thomas paid a visit to Peter Leung's home and was amazed by Peter's vast collection of LSC related photos and memorabilia. (Bro. Thomas on swing in Peter Leung's backyard in photo)



School News

Excerpts from http://www.lasalle.edu.hk

2009-11-27

2009-2010 Interschool Fencing Team Competition Results

Foil - Champion

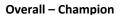
Michael Tam Yuk Wang 4E George Yeung Ka Hei 6D Christopher Wong Chun Ming 4B Thomas Tang Pui Ting 2B Walter Cheung Tsz Fung 2B Chris Cheng Kwan Yiu 2A Ryan Choi Chun Yin 1D

Epee - Third

Davy Chan Kwong Wai 5F Johnny Chang Yau Cheung 6D Stephen Leung Wai Kit 5G Ocean Cheung Tsz Hin 4B Darius Lai Hin Yeung 4A Keswani Andrew Jeram 4F Boris But 2D

Sabre - Second

Adrian Li Sze Hou 4F Gabriel Sin Hong Kiu 4F Derek Chan Long Hin 4B Jacky Lam Chak Yu 3A Lincoln Chau Lik Hang 2F Cheng Hoi Yiu 4A





Life Update

Mr. John Au in Vancouver

Jimmy Chang (1966)

Jimmy Chang (66) from Toronto was in Vancouver for the weekend and met local classmates and schoolmates for dinner on Saturday November 21, 2009 at 廣州粥麵小廚.

Retired LSC teacher Mr. John Au (57) also happened to be in Vancouver in late November visiting his elder brother King Sing Au (57), who was a former LSPS teacher. He found out through Peter Choy (73) about the old boys' dinner gathering and promptly moved his family dinner to the same restaurant to meet his former students. It was very nice to see Au Sir again.

Au Sir started teaching in LSC in September 1961 as the form master of F1E. Au Sir said that the Class of 1966 was very special to him because that was his first class of students in Form 1 and also he was married in 1966.



Mr. John Au with 3 of his first students of F1E Jimmy Chang, Michael Lam and Edward Lee.



Sitting L-R: Francis Kan (66), King Sing Au (57), John Au (57), Jimmy Chang (66) & Peter Tong (66) Standing L-R: Peter Yeung (66), Peter Law (66), Henry Leung (66), Frank chow (66), Michael Lam (66), Paul Ng (70), Joseph Ng (88), David Wong (72), Raymond Tam (66), Edward Lee (66) & Peter Choy (73)



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Focus 打遍天下無敵手

This article was published in Metro HK (香港都市日報) on October 23, 2009, and was the second of a three part series.

Editorial Board

曾俊華和森美,一個是掌管特區財政大權的高官,一個是影視播多棲紅人,表面上風馬牛不相及,但查實二人份屬喇沙書院的師兄弟,在森美讀中學時,曾 俊華更是其劍擊隊的教練。

在今期《學校有寶系列》,我們跟着他們二人重返校園,聽聽他們重談往事, 講講一把劍,如何串連兩代舊生的喇沙情。

文: 陳詩欣

攝:鍾錦榮(部分圖片由被訪者和喇沙書院提供)

很多人都知道曾俊華是運動健將,劍擊、功夫、壘球......樣樣皆能,而小師弟森 美也絕不遜色,自小跟打甲組排球賽的父親學習排球,打過丙組 比賽,直至中 三考入喇沙後轉玩劍擊,依然表現出色,更曾於學界比賽中得過團體組冠軍兼 個人賽季軍。問他倆何以愛上劍擊,他們不約而同答道:「有型!瀟 灑!」

學劍皆爲有型

曾俊華說,看見高年級的師兄穿起白色戰衣,感覺好型,當年身爲「form one 仔」的他,一有空便到操場看劍隊操練,但礙於年紀太小,習劍機會並不太多。直至後來到紐約升讀高中,才正式學習西洋劍術。

「我係全隊最矮嗰個,但佢哋唔夠我反應快。其實劍擊除咗講體能,它更是一種需要思考的運動。」所以即使身形不及洋人,但憑着靈活身手和敏捷頭腦,沒多久他便被選爲隊長,更經常代表學校參加比賽,直至大學時代。畢業後,他更獲聘在麻省理工學院(MIT)擔任劍擊隊助教,一教便是9年,而七、八十年代劍擊奧運冠軍、瑞典的 Johan Harmenberg,也是曾俊華在 MIT 的師弟。

至於森美,他的劍擊故事竟跟《龍珠》有關。「《龍珠》漫畫講的是『快』,這與劍擊一樣,只要夠快,就可以看穿對方的動作。」他說剛入隊時,自己表現未見出眾,加上轉校生的身份,令他缺乏信心。幸得到曾 sir 指導,又派他以 Team A(精英隊)隊員身份出戰校際比賽,讓他重拾信心,更明白到肯努力便有機會。「曾 sir 當年仲幫我改咗個花名,叫『launch machine』,意思係話我成日攻擊,呢個名令我知道咗自己的性格:防守做得唔好,就要靠進攻去幫自己。所以現在工作,我很多時候也會主動出擊。」

曾sir 爲森美改花名

在森美口中的曾sir,對待師弟就如仔女一樣,不單經常給予鼓勵,每年更會安排到其官邸相聚。「在他身上,我學會對學校要有歸屬感和責任感,他回來教



喇沙劍擊隊,攝於 89-90 年度。 右一爲曾俊華,黃圈者爲森美。



多年已沒有習劍的森美,重訪母校當日也禁不住要「耍兩招」, 單看此圖,足以證明他果然「寶 劍未老」。



全副武裝上陣的曾俊華(黑衫者),每星期也會落場跟學生「過招」。



當老師的比當學生的更滿面通 紅、汗流浹背,一看就知邊個有 姿勢,邊個有實際啦。



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劍,也是因爲出於對師弟們的愛。幾年前,我答應到中大做客席講師,教授廣播理論,正是受到他的感染,要爲母校作出貢獻。」

成立於五十年代的喇沙劍擊隊,早於1958年已在首屆校際劍擊比賽贏得冠軍,李小龍胞兄李忠琛(Peter Lee),當年也是劍擊校隊成員,更曾代表香港出戰英聯邦比賽,爲喇沙劍擊打出最輝煌的年代。成績彪炳,但原來高徒不一定出自名師。由 Peter Lee 年代開始,師兄充當教練,已成爲喇沙劍擊隊的特色,當年劍術了得的李忠琛,也是身兼隊長和教練,在學時已培訓過不少師弟,到了今時今日,曾俊華依然將這種薪火相傳的精神延續下去。

感激母校全才培育

想起當年跟隨曾俊華習劍的生涯,森美直言:「梗係辛苦,大熱天時又着件衣,又戴 mask,『濕??』,又污糟邋遢,但好享受,一隊 team 好似 一家人。」問曾俊華對森美有何印象,師父雖然只一味大讚「佢好叻仔」,但在旁的師兄則大爆森美當年相當精乖,與現在口多多形象判若兩人。「係呀,我當年好乖,運動唔使講,成績又唔錯,仲係風紀隊長,呢樣嘢多得學校的培育,把我塑造成 all round 嘅人。」

「阿 sir 好重要」

除了曾俊華這個精神領袖兼總教練,喇沙劍擊隊現時約有6位「師兄教練」,李實文(John Lee)是其中一個。

1985年加入劍隊的李實文,是曾俊華第一代劍擊徒弟。他憶述入隊之初,隊員表現相當不濟,隊中組織散渙,很多高年級師兄也因此相繼離隊,全隊人數已所剩無幾。

「阿 sir 的角色好重要,佢能夠給予我們信心,最厲害是能夠看穿我們的強弱項,讓我們發揮專長。自從他回來教劍後,隊員士氣唔同晒,團結咗好多。」他說在曾俊華帶領下的短短一年間,喇沙劍擊隊的表現可謂起死回生,學界比賽成績由 16 強不入,一躍而上升至全港亞軍,在其後數年,更連續幾屆蟬聯冠軍寶座。

唔夠瞓 也堅持義務教劍

沒有收錢,非爲作秀,無論有多忙,只要在港的日子,曾俊華都堅持回校教 劍。他對母校的無私付出,令 John Lee 感到相當敬佩。最難忘是 87 年股災,當時曾俊華任職財政司翟克誠的政務助理,「那天他穿着袖衫西褲,不如平常所 見的運動裝束,一問之下,才知道他全 星期只睡了 8 小時,雖然好劫,但仍然 堅持『返嚟睇吓』。」

John Lee 當時心想:「其實回不了來,打電話已可以,不用專程坐個多兩小時車回校。」但想到阿 sir 爲了守着承諾,即使心力俱疲,仍回校教劍,更是由衷感到敬佩。

時至今日,John Lee 已事業有成,也有了自己的家庭,但他也好像其師父一樣,每星期返母校當劍隊教練,在接近比賽的日子,甚至會練至晚上 11 時。「如果唔係佢當年播下種 籽,劍隊現在不會有這樣成績。」對於 John Lee 來說,接下教練一棒,大概就是貢獻母校,回報師父的最佳方法。



喇沙劍擊隊陣容鼎盛,曾多年奪 得學界冠軍,曾俊華確實是功不 可沒。



劍擊隊成立於五十年代,李小龍 胞兄李忠琛(Peter Lee)(右二)也曾 出任教練兼隊長。



劍擊隊成員每年也會造訪司長官 邸,與財爺關係親密得恍如家人 一樣。



曾俊華面帶滿足的笑容說:「看 見一個年輕人在學劍中有成長, 我好開心。」



曾俊華曾於網誌中講過,蓄鬚是 爲了想做個好劍手,因爲現實生 活及電影裏的劍擊好手,都是鬍 鬚一族。



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後記

訪問是在9月 19 日進行,還未趕及出刊,便傳出曾俊華心臟病發入院消息。

「知道消息後,整個劍隊氣氛立時變得低沉,害怕以後不能再見他,擔心以後的日子會怎樣。」John Lee 說事發後第二、三日,舊生們包括森美,都紛紛回校簽署慰問卡,以顯示對這位大師兄的關懷。

眾所周知,手術相當順利,曾俊華亦於中秋日平安出院回家。只是沒太多人知道的是,這位剛從死門關走出來的病人,出院才只有數天,便已如常在周六回校教劍,且是消耗體能、埋身過招那種特訓。上星期六,部分隊員到港大打比賽,他又親自到場支持,他對劍隊如此不離不棄,難怪師弟們近日都表現得比以往任何時候更賣力,以作對師父的無聲支持。(下期續)



爲表關心,多位劍擊隊員及舊生 爲曾俊華送上慰問卡(救護車造 型那張)。

Rest In Peace

The Edmonton Chapter learnt with great sadness the passing of Mr Yu Chow Wing, father-in-law of our President, Calvin Chan (71), on November 13, 2009. We wish to express our deepest condolences to Calvin and his wife Connie and family. A group of Chapter members and their spouses attended the funeral service on November 28, 2009 and were kindly invited to the post-service meal.

Despite the tremendous grief and familial obligations such an event imposed on Calvin, it is remarkable that he is still able to produce this December 2009 issue of our Newsletter right on time as usual. We marvel at his dedication to the La Salle cause under difficult personal circumstances, for which we owe him our gratitude.

Condolences to Peter Lai (67), President of LSCOBA New York, on the passing of his father, Mr. Lai Yu Chuen, on November 10, 2009 in New York City, New York, at the age of 91.

Funeral service was held on the morning of November 20 at Chun Fook Funeral Home, Flushing, New York. Many OBs from around the area attended the funeral service. Several North American OBA chapters and other OBs from outside of New York also sent wreaths to the funeral.

Chris Tse (1965)

William Lai (1961)

About this newsletter

This newsletter is aimed at providing an electronic platform for communication among La Salle College old boys residing in North America. However, it shall not be used as a tool to promote any personal agenda. The editorial board therefore reserves the right to review and edit all submissions to ensure that no inappropriate contents appear in any issue of this newsletter. The editorial board also reserves the right to reject any submission that is not in line with the objective of this newsletter. Please send all your communications to editors@lscobaedm.org.

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