



September 2018
Fall Edition

Ontario Maryknollers

Official Newsletter of Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.)

Letter from the President

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☆ Committee Members ☆
☆ 2016 ~ 2018 ☆
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Dear Fellow Maryknollers,

Hope you are all enjoying the nice weather in Toronto this summer.

In Spring, we had 50 members, family and friends joining our networking dinner at Ritzzy Palace. Our alumni member, Dr. Anna Victoria Wong of Class 1992, presented to us during the dinner. She introduced us to the Chinese Family Services of Ontario and the services it provides to the Chinese community and new Chinese immigrants.

Although 2018 is already half gone, we still have different programs planned for the 2nd half of the year. In September, we are going to the Motherhouse to celebrate Sr. Earnest Chung's Golden Jubilee. I still remember the last time we went to the Motherhouse in 2012. We knitted lots of scarves for the Worldwide Reunion on our bus trip. And we helped the sisters setting up and running their Christmas bazaar at the Motherhouse. Our trip ended with the Hurricane Sandy chasing us back to Canada. What an unforgettable trip!

This time we are going to visit the Motherhouse for the Jubilee celebrations. And we will also stop by the Woodbury Commons and the New York City. We now have 15 girls confirmed to go on the trip. However, we need 7 more people to make the trip feasible. If you are still interested, please contact one of the committee members or reply the email that Jacqueline Fong sent out on July 17.

On October 28, we will have our Biennial General Meeting at Shangri-La Banquet Hall & Convention Centre in Markham. This marks the end of my 2nd term as the President of the Alumni. I am so honoured to be your President and served our fellow members by organizing different networking activities. We are calling our members to join our committee and be part of the planning team. The committee meets about 3 – 5 times a year. We usually gathered and had suppers together during our meeting. Please come join us and be part of the team.

Last but not least, we sent out an email a few days ago to sell raffle tickets to support the Maryknoll Sisters' Ellis Island event. In just 24 hours, we already sold 120 tickets for the sisters. We are so thrilled to see this amazing support from our fellow Maryknollers. Tickets are still on sale until August 31. Each book has 12 tickets and are CAD\$20 for 3 tickets. If you are interested, please contact one of our committee members or reply the email Jacqueline sent.

Thank you for your continuing support. We hope to see you in our Motherhouse trip or our BGM in the near future.

Enjoy the rest of your summer!

Sincerely,

Wendy Man

Spring Networking Dinner

Irene Legay



Spring was in the Air: what better time for our Maryknollers to find the perfect excuse to get together and renew fellowship. A total of 53 of us, comprising of former teachers, members, family and friends, enjoyed a lovely evening at the Ritzy Palace Chinese Restaurant on April 22, 2018. The President of Wah Yan Kowloon Alumni and the President of Casa de Macau Alumni in Ontario, and their spouses also honoured us with their presence.

Our Emcee for the evening was Nena Noronha. Mrs. Marie-Louise Rocha Chang led us to say Grace before dinner commenced. Some forthcoming events to New York were announced by our President, including the planned trip to Motherhouse for mid-September 2018 for celebration of Sr. Earnest Chung's Golden Jubilee with Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic.

A very special presentation was given that evening by our very own Anna Victoria Wong, (MCS 1992) working at the Chinese Family Services of Ontario, on *"The Role of CFSO and the Importance of Individual Psychosocial well-being and Family Harmony in the Community"*. The topic attracted a lot of questions from the floor, particularly from our medical and social service professionals.

Grand Opening of Alfie Dentistry



On June 15, **Shirley Cheong ('81)** and her fellow dentist husband **Kenny Chan** celebrated the grand opening of their new dental practice at Willowdale Avenue, North York, with family, friends, clients and Maryknollers.

The evening was indeed a grand event with lots of drinks, food and laughter. Everyone present was impressed with the state of the art facilities and equipment. There was even valet parking service provided for the arriving guests greeted by a team of uniformed young men. How could such meticulous planning be surpassed!!



The evening also brought to the limelight the success of several offsprings of the Maryknoll family. The event planner for the opening event, *Karen Lee*, is Shirley's niece and the daughter of Anita Cheong Lee ('74).

The architect who transformed an ordinary office building into an ultra modern structure with a glass facade is *Vanessa Fong*, the daughter of Jacqueline Lam Fong ('74). *Derek Chan*, Shirley's son, who is currently studying Dentistry at NYU, has also provided lots of input into this project. It is very rewarding to see these young people growing up and taking on new roles in life.

One highlight of the evening was a floral arrangement done by Shirley herself. It became the focus of the evening. We found out that for many years, Shirley has taken on Ikebana as a hobby. She is a student of the Ikenobo School, the oldest school of Japanese Flower Arrangement.



Shirley has definitely lived up to her motto in life *"A Love for Innovation and Excellence"*.

A Continuing Success Story - Thanks at Technology and Much Enthusiasm from our Members!



Sr. Arlene Trent & Sr. Jeanne Houlihan helped to write the names of the ticket purchasers

On July 24, our committee sent out an e-blast calling on our members to support the September Maryknoll Fund Raising Gala by buying a raffle ticket. Much to our surprise we met our targeted sales of 120 tickets within 24 hours. We moved our target to 240 tickets and that was met within the next 24 hours! As of August 9 we have sold over 690 tickets.....and the tickets are still selling like hotcakes!

In order to save the cost of shipping the tickets from the Motherhouse (not to mention that the postal system just wouldn't be able to keep up with our quick sales..), the committee decided to use technology to facilitate this project.



Sr. Rosalie Lacorte

Once the committee receives the money for the tickets, the ticket purchaser is acknowledged by email. As each batch of 120 tickets are sold, a spreadsheet with the names of the purchasers is sent to the Motherhouse. Sr. Rosalie, the Sister in charge of this project, hand writes the purchaser's name on the ticket and identifies our Toronto tickets with a big 'T'. The tickets are placed in the tombola, anxiously waiting for the September 7 draw at the Ellis Island Gala. (All this happens within 48 hours!). The committee will bring the money collected to the Motherhouse on our upcoming bus trip on September 14 – 17. (Please come with us! There is still space on our fun bus!)

Due to the overwhelming support from YOU, we will be selling tickets until August 31. Please contact us for tickets. The tickets are Cnd\$20 for 3 tickets. There will be two prizes of US\$2,500 and a grand prize of US\$5,000.



Congratulations



Dr. Alan Joe, the husband of **Juliana Shee Joe** (MCS '55), launched his book, *Of Ox and Unicorn : An Immigrant's Story*, in June, 2018.

Dr. Joe has spent the past 10 years working on this book as his retirement project. It is a moving account of his perilous childhood in war torn China, followed by his emigration to Canada as a teenager and the many challenges he faced growing up in Toronto Chinatown. His path to overcome all odds and to become a successful orthodontist in Toronto is also an account of the growth of the Chinese community in Canada.

This book has received rave reviews. Dr Joe is also donating all sales of the book to benefit the Sick Kids Hospital in Toronto. The MCS community is able to place orders for signed copies by contacting Juliana Joe through our website email address contactus@mcsontario.org

May She Rest in Peace

Alice Pao Luke (1963) passed away peacefully on February 18, 2018 after a 3 year fight with ALS. After moving to Toronto in 1987, Alice has since devoted much of her time volunteering at senior homes and the Catholic Church. She had a beautiful voice and sang beautifully. She was among the



first group of volunteers of Yee Hong Center for Geriatric Care and has been giving weekly singing performances for the seniors for over 20 years. As a devout Catholic, Alice was actively involved in church groups of multiple parishes. She was always supportive of the Maryknoll Sisters and had been a very generous supporter of the Toronto Alumni's fund-raising efforts.

After being diagnosed with ALS in 2015, her strong faith supported her throughout her struggle with the illness and gave her a peaceful spiritual refuge in her last days. A group of Maryknoll friends visited her regularly during her ordeal and prayed with her to provide comfort.

Alice is survived by her husband, Peter Luke, daughters Lelia and Joanie and son-in-law, Herman Wong.

Biennial General Meeting

Our BGM will be held this year at the Shangri-la Convention Centre, 50 Esna Park Drive, Markham, Ontario L3E 1E1 on Sunday October 28, 2018 following a Set Dim Sum Lunch which will start at 12:30pm. Details on the Agenda and full BGM Notice Package will be sent out by email to each Member by mid September 2018. The cost for lunch will be \$20 per person. Do notify us if you have changed your email address since our last BGM in 2016. **Please mark your calendar for this important meeting.**

BGM Lunch Reply Form

Member's Name (Please print)

Year

Address

Tel. No.

E-mail Address

Cheque enclosed/ amount to pay at the door
\$

Signature

Date

Academic Achievement Award

Once again, it is time for the awards to be presented to the children of our members. Students with an overall average of 80% and above in six Ontario Academic Credits are eligible to apply. The awards will be given out at the Biennial General Meeting lunch on Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018. Transcripts can either be sent to P.O. Box 91070, 2901 Bayview Ave., North York, Ontario M2K 2Y6 **OR** email a scanned copy to us at



contactus@mcsontario.org

no later than Oct. 14, For further queries, please contact Gertrude Chan at 416-496-9671.

10th Worldwide Reunion

**Save the Dates -2020 Maryknoll
Worldwide Reunion in New York
City - August 7-August 9, 2020.**

Please be patient.

New York Maryknollers will be unveiling the programme and venue soon.