



Ontario Maryknollers

Official Newsletter of Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.)

Report from the Outgoing President

Kathy King

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☆ Committee Members ☆
☆ 2004~2006 ☆
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President

Ludia Fong

Vice-President

Jacqueline Fong

Treasurers

Winnie Ng
Patricia Wu

Secretaries

Winnie Wong
Marie Louise Chang

Newsletter Production

Gertrude Chan

Activities

Lulu Yui
Cynthia Church
Nena Noronha

Membership/Directory

Judy Beca

Web-site Mistress

Gertrude Chan

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On behalf of your Executive Committee, I welcome you, not only to our Annual General Meeting, but also to the 20th Anniversary of our Association! I consider it an honour to be part of this landmark occasion. We have planned for a fun-evening with door prizes, table prizes and even a game!

I am only going to take a few minutes to give you a brief summary on what happened 20 years ago. So please bear with me.

It was 20 years ago that a small group of women (18 in total) spearheaded by Dorothy Cheng Tsang who really started the ball rolling. Dorothy had just emigrated from Hong Kong where there was already an MCS association. Aware that there were many MCS girls in Toronto, Dorothy thought it would be a good idea to have an association in Toronto. With typical Maryknoll spirit – dedication and determination - the girls spent many long hours setting up our by-laws. Thus, The Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.) Inc. was started. Today, we boast a membership of over 230 members. We are hopeful that this number will continue to increase over the years.

We have with us this evening, a number of past presidents, and it gives me great pleasure to introduce them to you. When I call your name, could you please stand up and identify yourself. The names are not in any special order. However, I would like to start with our very first president, Gertrude Chan.

Noellie Nair Walton	Jacqueline Lam Fong
Linda de Rocha Little	Ann Cheng Tung
Marie-Louise Rocha Chang	Angela Tsui Chan (who is not with us this evening)
Patricia Ho Wu	and, of course, myself, Kathy King

One function that was started a couple of years ago, was the Networking Dinner. A lot of effort was put into this. We tried to think of interesting topics and invited guest speakers. We had approximately six tables of attendees at our last dinner. This is a far cry from three tables at our first dinner. As you can see, we have had quite a success. However, we need input from you, the members, as to what topics you would like to have. We also need your attendance at these events. I cannot stress enough how important it is that you actively participate and support your Association.

The fundraising for the Motherhouse held on September 6, 2003 was an overwhelming success. Over C\$90,000.00 was raised! The amazing part of this was that this amount was raised without any corporate help. This function held jointly with MSS was originally scheduled for April 5, 2003 but was postponed because of SARS. For those of you who are not aware of this event, it is a joint venture with MSS and held approximately every two-three years. Every penny raised goes to the Motherhouse in New York for the sisters who require medical care. The next fundraising will be chaired by MCS.

The Valentine Ball. This function was first started with many of the Hong Kong Catholic schools involved. We were one of the founding schools. The intent was to get together once a year around Valentine to have a good time. MCS has hosted this function twice since its inception. Although this has been our one and only source

of income, after seventeen years doing this, we have decided to withdraw. We feel the purpose of this event has been lost and/or forgotten

The MCS 5th Worldwide Reunion to be held in New York is well under-way. After the A.G.M. is officially closed, we will discuss this item further. Please remain behind and Pat and Nena will try to answer any questions you may have.

Before I call on our Treasurers, Pat and Winnie to give the financials, I want you all to know that if it wasn't for Pat, our Association would be broke today! When you think about it, our one-time membership fee is only \$100.00. For those of you who were with us from the very beginning, it has only cost you \$5.00 a year and this gets cheaper as the years go by! Pat literally guards, and I mean guards, our money. To try to get any money out of Pat is worse than pulling teeth (private joke because I just happen to be a dental surgeon).

I don't know whether many of you know that not only was Pat responsible for the meeting to be held at the Granite Club, but that she has generously contributed financially towards it. Pat was also instrumental in getting the club for our successful fundraising held in September, 2003. Ladies, I would like you to join me in giving Pat and Winnie a big hand for looking after our money.

And now, I would like to present a token of our appreciation to members of the committee who are not seeking re-election:

Shirley Cheong – Shirley not only served as our Secretary but she also assisted in getting our website up and running. The 20th Anniversary button you got in your pouch was Shirley's idea and she generously donated these to us. Thank you, Shirley, for your contribution and generosity.

Anna Li – Anna was in charge of our Membership Registration. She made sure that all the data received was recorded and kept up to date. The directory you also got in your pouch was a result of Anna's hard work. Anna, with her husband, is relocating to Ottawa. Anna, we wish you and your husband all the very best for the future. We hope you will be able to come to some MCS functions when you visit Toronto. Thank you.

Nora Man – Nora joined the committee at a critical time and her contribution was her 'level-headedness'. By this I mean that when a concern or problem occurred, one could always rely on Nora to come up with a debatable approach. In her quiet and logical manner, she would somehow manage to dissect a situation and come up with solutions. Thank you, Nora, for your contribution.

Kitty Lam – Unfortunately, Kitty was unable to join us this evening. Kitty was very helpful when MCS chaired the Valentine Ball the second time.

When I first joined the Committee four years ago (one year as Vice-President and three years as President), I had no idea what it meant to be part of this extraordinary group of girls. All I can say is that the experience and knowledge I gained these past four years, I would not be in a hurry to trade. I consider myself very fortunate to have made friends with girls

whom I would never have met if it were not for the alumni. I might add – good friends. Friends who have given me unbelievable help. Girls who have willingly and generously gone the extra mile for MCS. Girls who asked for nothing in return except your support and participation when needed. It was fun working with them. Mind you, we did have meetings that were not so enjoyable. But overall, we had fun. And that is what this is all about. I give you my pledge that you can always count on me to help out in any way. I will miss you all very much. Thank you.

President's Report

Ludia Fong

I am honoured to be elected as President of this Association. I promise that I will, to the best of my ability, continue the good work that has been done for the past twenty years and to maintain a strong bond among us. As in the past, we are fortunate to have on board a great team for this 2004 ~ 2006 term. I welcome first-timers Judy Beca, Cynthia Church, and Lulu Yiu. I am happy that Jacqueline Fong and Winnie Wong have returned to help us out; and I am grateful to Gertrude Chan, Marie Louise Chang, Winnie Ng, Nena Noronha and Patricia Wu for volunteering to do another term of office. Your new executive committee members are:



President	Ludia Fong
Vice President	Jacqueline Fong
Secretaries	Winnie Wong and Marie Louise Chang
Treasurers	Patricia Ho and Winnie Ng
Membership	Judy Beca
Activities	Cynthia Church, Nena Noronha and Lulu Yiu
Website and Newsletters	Gertrude Chan

We are planning numerous fun-filled events as well as raising funds for the Sisters. However, no matter how many activities or good intentions your Committee may have, we need your participation and support. The Association cannot succeed without your support and interest. Since we have withdrawn from the Hong Kong Joint School Alumni Valentine Ball, we have to look for other ways of generating income. If you have any friends who are not members, please ask them to support us. Our fee is still \$100.00 for lifetime membership. If you have any suggestions, please contact any member of the committee, or through our website.

I wish you all a very enjoyable and relaxing summer,

REPORT ON THE AGM

Winnie Wong

What a wonderful evening! The AGM and the Celebration of the 20th Anniversary was held on April 16, 2004 at the Granite Club. A total of 61 enthusiastic ladies showed up for the event. The evening started off with singing our unforgettable school song and a delicious buffet dinner was then served. The formal part of the meeting started with the President and Treasurer's Report. Kathy King, our out-going President, presented memorabilia to the retiring committee members. Ludia Fong, our Vice President, then presented one to Kathy.

The new eleven committee members were then introduced:

The highlight of the evening was when the celebration cake with the MCS crest (donated by Patricia Wu) was wheeled out. The past presidents who were present performed the cake-cutting ceremony. During a delicious dessert a game was played, followed by the lucky draw. Finally I'll like to mention a note of thanks to Kathy King for the table wine and Marie-Louise Chang for being the emcee.



N.B. Many more pictures of the evening are available at the official website www.mcsontario.org



Congratulations to **Antoinette Yuen**, daughter of **Bernadette Yuen**.

In March, she won gold medal in the first National Adult Figure Skating Competition hosted by Skate Canada in Burnaby, British Columbia, in the Ladies Free-skate category for ages 40+

Antoinette has been figure skating since university days which amounts to about 10 years in total. As well, she skated with

Newmarket's Iced Energy Synchro Skating team for approximately 6 years and is currently working on Senior Bronze Dance tests.

Next year's Adult Nationals will be hosted in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, March 28-31, 2005.

We wish her many more successes in the years to come.



Congratulations to **Evelyn Joyce** (nee **Larcina**) and Michael Barros. Their first grandchild, **Kyra Madeleine Findlay**, was born on March 4, 2004 weighing 7 lbs 4 oz. Her proud parents are Shelley (nee Barros) and Mike Findlay.

Jesus said: I am the resurrection and the Life. (John 11:25)

Mr. Nga-Ming Ho passed away in Hong Kong peacefully on May 12, 2004. He was the loving father of five Maryknollers: **Patricia** ('71), **Cecilia** ('72), **Magdalen** ('76), **Jennifer** ('77) and **Angela** ('79) and three La Salle boys, **Brian** ('73), **Simon** ('80) and **Lawrence** ('81) as well as daughter-in-law Teresa Tse (MCS '76).

Mr. Ho dedicated his life to improving the Hong Kong education system. As a graduate of Manchester University and Cambridge University in the U.K., he began his career teaching at King's College, Queen's College and then a teachers training programs at Sir Robert Black College. He was the Deputy Director of the Education Department when he retired in 1979: the first Chinese to hold such a position in Colonial Hong Kong. Mr. Ho then assisted the Hang Sang Bank to establish the Hang Sang School of Commerce and held the position of president of the college until 1995 when he finally retired from all work.

Mr. Ho kept very close ties with MCS over the years. He was the guest of honour on two occasions for Speech Day and he attended the MCSWWR in Toronto and Vancouver. Besides his family, friends, former-students and colleagues, there was a strong presence of the MCS community including Sr. Rose Duchesne and Mrs. Lydia Huang at his funeral services in Hong Kong on March 25, 2004. Father Alfred Deignan, S.J. formerly Principal of Wah Yan H.K., offered Mass while Lester Huang acted as the Master of Ceremony, and Mark Huang was the Choir Master leading the 9 a.m. choir from St. Teresa's Church.

Mr. Ho lived a full and meaningful life. He loved English Literature where he specialized in Shakespeare. For leisure, he enjoyed classical music and traveling. Mr. Ho was active until November 2003 when he slipped and hurt his spine. He did not want to sacrifice his quality of life so at the age of eighty, Mr. Ho did not hesitate to undergo a major spinal cord operation. Afterwards, he embarked on an arduous process of rehabilitation which inspired us all. Mr. Ho left behind a legacy of fortitude. Even though the Sisters would miss him at the next MCSWWR in New York, we know that Mr. Ho has embarked on a journey to a better place where he is no longer bounded by his physical restrictions.

An educational trust has been set up in Mr. Nga-Ming Ho's name to support and encourage teacher education in Hong Kong.

Our sincerest condolences go to **Angeline Yeung Chan** whose husband **Dr. Pang-Ling Chan** passed away on January 2, 2004 of a sudden heart attack while vacationing with his family in the British Virgin Islands. He was 67 years young, survived by his mother and mourned by wife Angeline, sons Paul and Gus and sisters Janet and Marianne and their respective families, relatives, many friends and patients.

May he rest in peace

Activities for 2004 - 2005

Questionnaire

We would like you to take a few minutes to fill out this questionnaire for the coming year's activities.

Part A: Please check off the activity(ies) that you'd like to participate the most.



- Picnic, Bingo, Bowling
- Net-working dinner
- Golf and mahjong/card games.
- Winery tour at Niagara
- Casino trip to Rama
- Boat cruise at the waterfront



Apple/cherry/strawberry picking

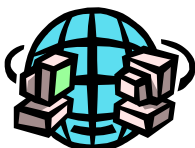
Part B: Please put in 2 suggestions for activities this year.



Part C: Please put in 2 suggestions for net-working topics



Thanks!



Are You Moving or Have You Moved?

If you wish to continue to receive your copy of our newsletter after you've moved, please fill out the change of address notification form below and mail or fax to :

Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.) Inc.
 P.O. Box 20056
 Nymark Postal Outlet
 4839 Leslie Street, North York, ON M2J 5E4

Fax No. (416) 222-5483

Name (First) _____ (Maiden) _____ (Married) _____
 Year of Form 5 _____ Year Left Maryknoll _____

Please change my address effective on (day) _____ / (month) _____ / (year) _____
 NEW ADDRESS IS:
 Street No. _____ Street Name _____
 Apt. No. _____ City _____ Postal Code _____
 New Home Phone No. _____ Work Phone No. _____
 Cell Phone No. _____ E-mail Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____