

Ontario Maryknollers

Official Newsletter of Maryknoll Convent Former Students (Ont.)



Message from the President

by Wendy Man

Dear Fellow Maryknollers,

Greetings from the MCS Ontario Alumni Committee!

I was thrilled to see so many familiar faces in our recent BGM luncheon on October 2, 2022. In particular, we were happy to see some of our teachers to join our meeting: Mrs. Amy Lo, Mrs. Anita Lee, Mrs. Marie Louise Rocha Chang, and Mrs. Marita Tang. And we are honoured to have one of the previous Vice Principals, Ms. Cynthia Ho, to join us as well. Thank you to all the directory sponsors and lucky draw prize donors. If you would like to get a copy of our latest directory, please contact one of the committee members. You can read about the BGM event report from our secretary, Judy Tong, in the newsletter.

As we reviewed our activities in the past term, we were not able to organize a lot of virtual gatherings with our members during the pandemic. We noticed that some of our active members missed the social networking opportunities. Therefore, we plan to resume our in-person gatherings in the new term.

In 2023, we are planning to host a Bingo game day in May and a Fall networking gathering around September. Our committee members suggest an afternoon tea train ride to watch Fall leaves scenery in Uxbridge or an exquisite dining experience at the Centennial School of Hospitality and Culinary Arts in Scarborough. Which one do you like? Please send us your vote to contactus@mcsontario.org.

As we wrapped up the last term, I would like to say thank you to our members who have supported us throughout the pandemic. You have shown your generosity through your donations to our beloved Sisters at the Motherhouse. Moreover, your participation in our virtual meetings and in-person BGM has given us drive to keep organizing more events in the coming years.

As our lives are slowly going back to normal, I hope to see you again in our 2023 networking events.

Wish you and your family all the best!

President

Wendy Man

Vice Presidents

Ludia Au Fong

Winnie Wong Wong

Secretaries

Judy Tong

Treasurers

Patricia Wu

Lily Wong Yeung

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Jacqueline Fong

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Biennial General Meeting - MCS Former Students (Ont.) Inc. - Oct. 2, 2022



The long awaited BGM took place on Oct 2, 2022 at the Sun Star Chinese Cuisine in North York, Ontario. Attendees were comprised of 26 members and 8 non-members who filled the 3 tables. Maria Louise Rocha Chang led grace. We were served a scrumptious meal of dim sum, various other dishes and the lobster with noodles were all very delicious!

Raffles were drawn for prizes from an anonymous source, as well as items donated by Pearl Chan Tam (1963). It generated tremendous excitement when winners were announced. The room was full of laughter and fun! So much so that we had a hard time getting the non-members out!

Meeting commenced at 2:45pm. The treasurer's report itemized expenses and indicated that we have a closing balance of \$58,815, down from last year of \$65,430 due to inactivity. Hence lack of income. The Secretary reported that there had been 4 Committee meetings during the pandemic. Highlights of events that took place included the virtual cooking class for Japanese curry beef with Chef Sheree, and the 50th Reunion for the Class of 1971. These events took place via zoom. If you missed them, please go to 'MCSontario.org' website. They are both very good!

There was no change to the Committee members for the upcoming 2022/2024 term. The only exception was the addition of Dr. Shirley Cheong (Class 1981) as the Newsletter Chief, who replaced the late Ms. Gertrude Chan.

Some members started handing over Christmas donations for the Motherhouse. What a great start! The atmosphere was one of generosity, warmth and friendship, full of the Maryknoll spirit.

The silent auction for the late Gertrude Chan's origamis also brought in \$350 to support the Motherhouse in her honour. You can see a sample of her hand-made masterpieces to the right.



NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS



Mrs. Anita Lee with her granddaughter Leela Rose Meade (Age 3)



Jacqueline Fong celebrating her 45th Wedding Anniversary with Mr. Keng Fong



Jacqueline Fong's daughter, Lesley Fong married to Tim Driver



Getting ready for Halloween Party



Lily Wong's grandchildren, Charlotte (Age 3) and James Yeung (6 months old)



Regina Holden winning the Best Minchi Award from Casa de Macau



Above: Wendy Man's Daughter, Denise Lee, celebrating Mid-Autumn Festival in Hong Kong with Michelle Man

Below: Denise Lee studying in HK Polytechnic University as an exchange student and visiting Annie Lee and Michelle Man in Hong Kong



Winnie Wong celebrating her Birthday on the Heritage Train Ride with her granddaughter, Claire



In memory of Ms. Gertrude Chan

I was deeply saddened by the loss of our beloved Gertrude Chan, a former student and a teacher in MCS. In the 1950s, Gertrude and I were schoolmates. She was always a cheerful person with an incredible sense of humor. Relationships were very important to Gertrude. It was her strong value and a gift to all who knew her. She was a loyal friend and a friend in need. Her whole life was dedicated to the loving service of others. Above all, Gertrude had a deep faith in God and her value of HOPE gave people the inner strength to persevere. She gladly welcomed any problem presented to her. A problem to her was always an opportunity for learning, and she was determined to find a way to solve it. And she could always find a way to do so, too! She was a constant learner, curious about everything and would do research to find the answers to her questions. Ever since she was a child, she was highly self-motivated to learn and to discover. When she was a teacher, she always invited the students to do the same. She was able to establish a great rapport with her students and friends who loved her dearly in return. - **Sr. Teresa Leung**

"Who would have known a friendship could last for over 75 years! Memories bring back to the time we walked on Boundary Street to MCS in 1950s every school day. In fleeting years, we met again in Toronto in 1984. In this span of time, Gertrude and I kept connected on and off. What I found as we grew older that our friendship is thicker than blood. Her persistence in finishing a job was perfection. She grew with time. Her computer skill amazes me to this day! God gave her gifts and she so generously shared with others. She used every bit of her energy and time to the fullest helping families, students, colleagues, friends and communities. Gertrude, you have made this world a better place for all who crossed your path. Thank you." - **Margaret Lee Der (MCS '56)**

"Gertrude and I have been friends since 1953. Her mother always prepared Chinese pudding on Chinese New Year for me! When I immigrated to Toronto, Gertrude took me 'under her wings', helping me to find employment and schools for my children. She was indeed a true friend. Thank you, Gertrude, with all my heart. I miss you and will always keep you in my prayers." - **Marita Shek Tang (MCS '58)**

"Gertrude and I had many good-natured conversations about former Maryknoll teachers and students. My husband, Alan, also got to know Gertrude and at times would have some positive discussions with her. We will miss her dearly."

Juliana Shee Joe (MCS '55)

"I have known Gertrude for over 70 years. She was a good friend and classmate. She was the centre of communication for our class, and always so helpful! We all miss her so much! May she Rest in Peace. We know God loves her." **Juliana Jay (MCS '55)**

