



北美風沙
The North American Lasallians
APRIL 2023



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Tributes to Dr. Frank Chow

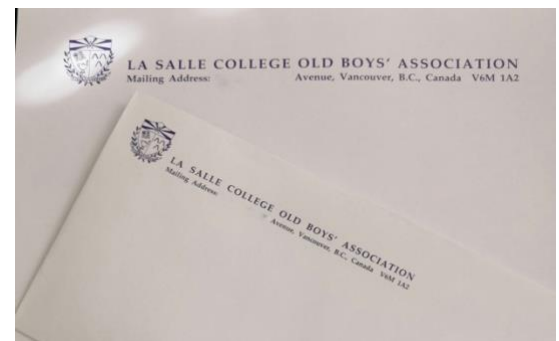
Victor Leung (77) & Vancouver Members

As sons of La Salle, we often get together to jointly celebrate life and brotherhood. At times, we also mourn for the loss of our fallen brothers. It particularly hurts when the lost brother had special bonding to us. Vancouver Chapter was deeply saddened on learning about the death of one of the founding executives of our Chapter, Dr. Frank Chow (66), who succumbed to cancer and passed away on March 5, 2023. As one of the major pillars of Vancouver Chapter, Frank was well known and respected amongst members of Vancouver Chapter. Frank is survived by his wife Jacqueline, two sons Jesse and Jamie, and his grandson Dylan.



Left to Right: Prof. Johnson Chow, Frank, Frank's daughter-in-law Alison, Jacqueline, grandson Dylan, older son Jesse, and younger son Jamie.

As one of the founding members of Vancouver Chapter, Frank was a very loyal and active member who always showed support to our Chapter and Alma Mater. Frank served as President of Vancouver Chapter between 1985 and 1990 and continued to serve as an active Director of the chapter for many years. In fact, Vancouver Chapter was registered under Frank's home address for close to 40 years, and his home was used as the chapter headquarter during those years.



Condolence messages started pouring in for the Chow family soon after members learned about Frank's sad passing. Members recalled many fond memories of various events held at Frank's place, ranging from the more formal Chapter board meetings to the fun and joyful karaoke singing and mahjong gatherings. Some junior Lasallians also remembered and thanked Frank for his past guidance and mentorship in their early career development days.

The La Salle spirit was unequivocally strong for Frank and his family. His late father, Professor Johnson Chow (周士心教授) who was a world renowned Chinese painter, had also joined Frank participating in many La Salle functions, and had donated some of his art works for auction for La Salle related fundraising functions.

Although Frank may have left, many of us would continue to remember and treasure the welcoming smile and the glow of La Salle spirit of Frank Chow! On behalf of members of Vancouver Chapter, I want to thank Dr. Frank Chow for his past contributions in laying a strong foundation for our Chapter! It takes comfort to know that Frank is finally reunited with his parents. I would also wish to express our deepest condolences to the Chow family, especially his wife Jacqueline! I'm sure Frank will continue to be with us in spirit.



Vancouver Chapter 2021 Annual BBQ Group Photo



Earlier days group gathering



Frank & Jacqueline



Suki & Peter Choy and Jacqueline & Frank Chow (1991)

The following are some of the condolence messages from fellow old boys:

“Of course, I always remember Dr. Frank Chow. We spent three years in the same classroom from Form 3 to Form 5 together. He was a friendly person and introduce me to the game of Mahjong, not because he wanted to win, as much he wanted to make me his friend. Thank you, Dr. Frank Chow, you are so nice to me. He also invited me to his birthday celebration some years earlier. It was a happy event. He also trusted me to look after his parents before I retired in 2016. His father,画家周士心先生 survived bowel obstruction following gallbladder surgery. His beloved Mother was brave when she asked me to let her go peacefully without the complicated regular visits to hospital renal dialysis. She impressed me when she told me she merely wanted to be with her husband and see him established his 上海纪念馆, which he did. What a brave woman! I 叩头 to her!”

--- Henry Leung (1966)

“This one hurts, hurts a lot!!! Frank will be forever missed. I had nothing but respect for this 師兄 the first day I met him. Seriously my heart is broken.”

--- Francis Yeung (1969)

“Recently I have been in touch with Frank’s family briefly many times, somehow sadly expecting the inevitable. From the founding of LSCOPA, I have known Frank for well over 40 years. He is a La Salle old boy with excellent character, virtues, dedication, and good will.”

--- Benedict Lam (1960)

“I am saddened by the news of Frank’s passing. I have fond memories of attending the Vancouver Chapter’s board meetings at Frank’s residence, with his warm smile greeting us at the door. He was so welcoming. After the board meetings we would have a bit of fun with KTV singing. He also provided many of us, who were quite young and in early stages of our careers back then, with guidance and advice. I would like to express my deepest condolences to the Chow family. Thank you, Frank, for your immense contribution to the Vancouver Chapter!”

--- Alfred Lau (1973)

“I’m so sorry to hear that. He was a great fellow...generous, friendly, and full of life. We had a lot of fun...drinking and enjoying karaoke in his house. He’ll be missed.”

--- Sidney Lo (1967)

“I remember the times we had our committee meetings in Frank’s house. May his soul rest in peace!”

--- Henry So (1978)

“Sorry to hear the sad news about the pass away of our beloved Frank ... still remember how active and skillful he was when playing pingpong in Oval. He still looked pretty good when meeting him in the dim sum gathering last year ... life is fragile. May Frank rest in peace and please convey our deepest condolences to Jackie and her family.”

--- Steve Ng (1970)

“Dear Frank: No words can express our sorrow. You will not be forgotten! Rest in peace.”

--- Peter & Suki Choy (1973)

“Frank was everything about being positive. He lived a very full life, loved his family. He worked so hard, and played harder.

Frank was compassionate, and generous with his ready help. A man who spread only happiness and peace. May a man of peacemaking rest in peace!”

--- Raymond Tong (1969)

“I saw Dr. Frank Chow during various dinner events. May he rest in peace. I think I also saw him come back to La Salle when I was studying there from 1997-2001.”

--- Samuel Yau (2001)

“My deepest condolences go out to Doctor Frank Chow and to his wife, family and loved ones. A loss of one La Salle Old Boy is a loss for all other La Salle Boys. Rest in peace and God bless.”

--- Ron McSmith (1977)

LSCOBA NY/Tri-State Area Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner & AGM

Dan Sousa (64)

LaSallians of the La Salle College Old Boys Association New York/East Coast Chapter celebrated the arrival of the Year of the Rabbit on February 11, 2023 with a banquet held at the Orchid Restaurant in Garden City, New York. After the long pandemic lockdown, members were eager and thrilled to be together again as the threat of Covid has subsided. If there is such a thing as “revenge” eating, that was what took place. As in every annual banquet of the Association held at this venue, our fellow LaSallian, Jimmy Ng, who is the proprietor, went out of his way to make sure dishes served were extra special, which they certainly were. From the orange flavor beef, fried oyster, to the Pacific geoduck, and the many other dishes, all were exquisite. More than the food was the company of LaSallians and their families that was heartwarming. The ages of the group spanned three generations, from two-year-olds to over eighty.

As is the normal practice of the Association, the Annual General Meeting of Committee members took place before dinner. Members were updated on the activities, finances and new website soon to be launched, among other matters.

This year’s dinner lasted longer than usual due to the enthusiasm of a few LaSallians to belt out a few songs on the karaoke machine before leaving. The most popular tune of the evening was Under Lion Rock, delivered by star singer and past president Simon Wai which made everyone nostalgic about their “old days” in the “old country”.

A good time was had by all and everyone left with great optimism that the Rabbit Year will bring back some normalcy to their lives. Today’s stellar occasion will surely be tomorrow’s memories for LaSallians who attended as time passes.



LSCOBA-SC Spring Dinner 2023

Thomas Tsui (95)

On February 25, 2023, LSCOBA Southern California Chapter hosted Annual Spring Dinner 2023 to celebrate the Year of Rabbit. It was the first annual spring dinner since the COVID pandemic. About 40 old boys and family members joined this event. Hopefully more old boys will feel comfortable to join our future activities when the pandemic begins to subside. Also, the Chapter will organize dim sum luncheon in Torrance and San Diego areas in near future to accommodate local old boys.



Photo credit: David Woo (72)

Toronto Spring dinner

Kevin Kwok (88)

The Toronto Chapter's 2023 Spring Dinner & Mahjong (MJ) Tournament was held on March 12, 2023, at NKS Banquet Hall (帝寶名宴), with more than 24 MJ players at 5 competing tables and 1 non-competing table, and a total of 162 old boys and guests for dinner. It was an exciting and joyous occasion indeed.



After a fierce and keen competition lasting the entire afternoon, the Louis Pomeroy Memorial Trophy was presented by our chapter president, Kevin Kwok (88), and Danny Au Yeung (67), to the highest scoring old boy, Patrick Leung (68). Vincent Koo (74) and Owen Tsoi (2022) were the first and second runners-up, respectively.



Patrick Leung (68)



Vincent Koo (74)



Owen Tsoi (2022)



Ida Chiu (Guest)

The participants of our Spring Dinner were predominantly from the 60s and 90s because they were willing to flip their phone books and make personal calls to invite their old classmates to attend the dinner. As usual, spirits were high when we sang our school song and cheered for our Alma Mater.



Last but not least, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to Ambrose Cheung (69), who secured the nice venue/food and Danny Au Yeung (67) spent the whole day maintaining the best atmosphere of the tournament. We were very fortunate to have several members from the 2010s and 2020s as the organizing assistants of the event, and we thank them sincerely. Credit should also be given to Alex Tsoi (2017) and Kenny Fong (2017) for capturing the event photos and Peter Lau (70) for the sponsorship of a celebration cake.



Louis Pomeroy Memorial Mah Jong Tournament:

At the February 2011 Board meeting, the Chapter directors voted unanimously to henceforth name the chapter's annual spring mahjong tournament the Louis Pomeroy Memorial Trophy Mahjong Tournament in honor and memory of Louis Pomeroy (41), who left us peacefully on February 1, 2011. Louis was one of the most senior old boys of the Toronto Chapter and a very loyal one, too. He served as 1st V.P. on the LSCOPA(HK) Committee in the mid 1960s and was an incumbent director of the Toronto Chapter. The mahjong tournament was his favorite chapter event.

Highlights for the Spring Dinner



Danny Au Yeung (67), Kevin Kwok (88),
Raymond Au (67)



Kevin Kwok (88)



Samuel Mok Tribute

William Lai (61)

I learnt of Samuel's passing from his classmate and my close friend in Edmonton, Henry Kwok. My heart sank as Henry related the dreadful news to me. It was a sad day.

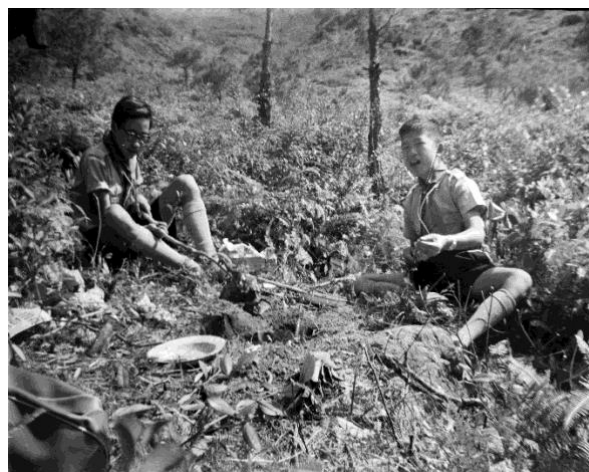
Samuel and I go back a long way, to our adolescence as Junior Boy Scouts in the 17th Group. He and I had a special connection. We did fun things together, kidded and joked around, and were very playful with each other. In fact, we were so playful that on one of our camping outings, I took a picture of him trying to pee in the open in full boy scout uniform. Don't worry, nothing obscene showed in the photo. But that symbolises our close, fun-filled friendship. We were innocent, happy juveniles.



Scouting formations with Samuel and me in the ranks



Somethin' cookin' between Samuel and me



Samuel and I negotiating with the campfire



A relieving, or relieved, Samuel

We lost contact after leaving La Salle. The next, and unfortunately the last, time I saw him was at the 2008 La Salle Global Reunion in New York. I was informed that he was looking for me when he found out that I would be there as well. It was remarkable that he was able to recognise me right on the spot as if we had never parted, even after all those contactless decades.

On my part, amongst the many friends and classmates of mine at La Salle, Samuel was one of very few whose names I have never forgotten, and whose image and experiences together I could recall instantly. From his approach to me in the 2008 reunion, it would appear that that sentiment was shared by Samuel.



As far as I know, Samuel and I were the only Queen's Scouts of our era who went on to serve in the real military. But I out-ranked him – ha, ha, ha. Samuel retired from the US army as a Captain, I from the Canadian army reserves as a Major. If we had met in our army uniforms, he would have to salute me. However, nothing that I did in civilian life, or on civvy street, as the colloquial military parlance goes, came anywhere near the heights and accomplishments that Samuel had achieved in government service and community engagement. Forget about the rank, Samuel; I salute you. You have the last laugh.

It is regrettable that Samuel and I had not kept in touch post-La-Salle. But I take some solace in the fact that our connection had remained in spirit in all those years.

Hang in there, Samuel buddy; we will connect again at some point.

Life Journeys of La Salle 1962 Class Grad

Henry Ka-Yim Kwok (62)

The year 2022 was the 60th Diamond Anniversary of the graduating class of 1962. It was also the 90th Anniversary of La Salle College. It was a truly double celebration for the members of our class.

We had periodic funky experiences wading through water crossing sandbagged door to classroom during our stays at the wooden shack campus. We wandered with pride through the hallways of the striking semi-gothic buildings with the Pointed Dome and we marveled at the modern facilities of the new campus when chanced for a visit.

We were fascinated by the Al Capone stories of the Prohibition Era as related by P-5A teacher, Mr. M. T. Kwong, who was in Chicago at university during the mid-1920. We were introduced to the 'power of human perception' by P-5B teacher, Mr. I. C. Tang, who used simple games to demonstrate that what we perceived, as in life, might not reflect the facts. Our backs straighten up with anxiety when called upon by Bro. Wilfred of P-6C with his piecing glaze and with a foot long ruler in his palm.



1955 Class photo of P-5A, at Perth Street campus, with Mr. M. T. Kwong, my father-in-law

We are the relic of the LSC history. We are the only few classes that share the different stages of the Lasallian culture development and the links to the past. We are a unique bunch.

All our classmates have been nurtured, participated, involved and/or related to LSC for over sixty-five years. We celebrated the LSC 25th Silver Jubilee in 1957, when the progressive Bro. Felix became headmaster. While many of us celebrated in person the 50th & 60th anniversaries in Hong Kong with some oversea participants, we remembered many missing classmates because their journeys in life were cut short.

I remember a few of my former P-5B classmates, like, Joseph Kho Sin-Bin, my good friend, the devoted Scout Leader of the 17th Group and the Head Perfect of LSC in 64; Chow Shau-Tak, the Architect who designed the new LSC; Dr. Paul Chan Shi-Hung, who presided the HKLSCOBAs for many years; Ralph Yip Kim-Hung, who co-founded and was the driving force of LSCOBAs Chapter in Edmonton for over thirty years & who hardly missed any LSCOBAs gatherings around the globe; Samuel Mok Tin-Sing, who devoted his whole career in public & community services & still connected with the LSCOBAs Chapters from the US East to the US West Coast. There was also Bro. Lawrence, the great educator, who had bonded as teacher with 62ers over the years and Andy Chan who taught at LSC and was frequent organizer of gatherings for 62ers in Hong Kong. It is observed that there had been classmate organizers planned monthly luncheon 62ers gatherings in Hong Kong for years and that many oversea 62ers are still frequent participants in various functions of local OBA oversea Chapters.



They are the core contributors in the formation and the foundation in the evolution of the La Salle Spirit. It is interesting to note that so many 62ers have been involved to such a great extent to promote and to foster the La Salle tradition. We may be special.

During the past six decades, there has been tremendous advancement in science and technology. There has been drastic changes of the usual community standards in the social, economic & political arenas. All these modifications of the traditional values of the communities will cause potential conflicts, resulting in many challenges especially for North American Lasallians.

Upon reflect on our life journeys through the decades, I do now believe that our 62ers class might not be 'unique and special' as first perceived. We encountered ups and downs in our personal, professional & working lives with nostalgia, treasured memories. But we are simple and normal. In retrospect, our journeys are but a 'mirror reflect' that are shared by all Lasallians of different classes, each may have different obstacles along the way. The fact of the matter is that the younger Lasallians may be facing greater challenges in their journeys than the 62ers had. However, I do believe that all current and future Lasallians can overcome any potential life challenges by abiding the Motto 'to subdue one's self to retain propriety' with hard work and involvements in the community they reside.

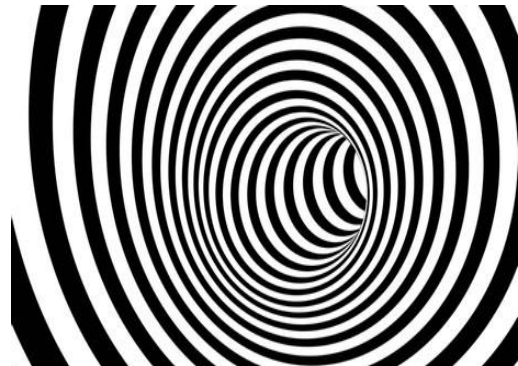
62ers are all old folkies, we are resigned to join the recently established '80 is the New 60 Club' and book our coming New 60th Birthday Celebration.



Thanks to Patrick Cho-Wai Lee of Hong Kong for the treasured photos.

An Ode to the Class of LSC 62ers

Inspired by the 1968 Song "In the Year 2525", I wrote the article piece for my 62' classmates prior to their 60 Diamond anniversary Dinner gathering in Hong Kong, trying to re-cap the journey of our class during the past 60 years. You can RAP it to the beat of your choosing.



In the year Nineteen Fifty-Five:

*Eager, young, full of life
Attending the barrack campus in Primary Five.
Played marbles, soccer & bartered with street venders,
Chattered with many classmates as friends to behold.*

In the year Nineteen Sixty-Two:

*Confidence & content upon graduation
Future pursues became an obsession.
Too many alternative paths to choose,
Trusting the decision made be the journey for you.*

In the years till Nineteen Ninety-Two:

Family and work took precedence,

*Alumni connection regrettably absence.
We were saddened with the demise of the Majestic Dome
Spirit spiked with pride when Athletics brough the Champions Home.*

In the next thirty years:

*Calm, cool and accomplished, we settled in our prime
Seeking mindful balances of body and mind, in time.
Accepted and abiding be the norm for changes in community,
Adjusted, adapted to changed health issues to obtain immunity.*

In the year Two Thousand Twenty-Two:

*Aged, wise and dynamic
Life fully lived, journeys completed, singing LSC school song made special like magic.
Smelling aromatic Diamond Reunion dinner of the day
Sharing many jovial stories, tall tales of yesterday.*

LSCOBA Leads LSPS Boys on Heritage Walk

Mark Huang (85)

The LSCOBA Heritage Subcommittee is a team of old boys who take an interest to research and preserve the school's history and heritage. One of the annual events organized is the La Salle Primary School Heritage Walk for Primary 4 boys.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the program had to be shelved for some 3 years. However, in February, soon after the HK Government lifted restrictions, the team got to work and organized the outing for the boys on 16 February.

Supported by the school and the LSPS Parent-Teacher Association volunteers, the event started with a presentation and videos giving some high-level details of the battle of Hong Kong, and how Lasallian teachers and old boys were involved in the battle. Afterwards, the 6 classes of boys were split into 8 groups (for smaller group size and easier handling).

This year, the boys were guided to three locations: The Sai Wan Fort (西灣炮台), the Sai Wan War Cemetery (西灣國殤紀念墳場), and the Stanley Military Cemetery (赤柱軍人墳場).



Mark Huang offered a short video and briefing to the boys before heading off.



At the Sai Wan Fort, the boys got to see the remnants of the Sai Wan Battery, including several gun emplacement positions. More importantly, we explained to the boys how our old boys and teachers were posted in that fort, and how they were rounded up by the Japanese, and massacred on the site on 18 December 1941. The boys left flowers near the location of the atrocity.

The boys are then taken to the Sai Wan War Cemetery, where we show the boys names of our teachers and old boys on the name plaques (we do not have any Lasallians buried in that cemetery). The boys also get a chance to roam around the cemetery to visit the graves and read the details and see how young some of the war-dead were, or where they came from.



Our boys sang the school song at the grave of Eddie Hyndman, the youngest war dead of Hong Kong. It was the same song Eddie himself sang.

Lastly, the boys visit the Stanley Military Cemetery, where we have quite a number of graves of old boys and teachers, including a number who tied on 18 December 1941, which the boys had just visited the site of their death in Sai Wan Fort.

The boys were deeply engaged in the program and showed a keen interest in the stories and histories of those who had served and fought for their country. Many of them asked thought-provoking questions, demonstrating a genuine desire to learn and understand more about the sacrifices made by previous generations. This experience left a lasting impression on the students and helped to deepen their appreciation for the importance of remembering and honoring those who have given their lives for their country.



At Stanley Military Cemetery.

We are thankful for the many old boys who volunteered to join the outing, as well as many parents who followed and supported us in our needs throughout the program. Above all, we thank LSPS for giving us the opportunity to offer our boys some perspective of our brave old boys and teachers during the battle - the boys' first history lesson.



Our old boy guides, teachers, and parent helpers who made this whole day event a success for some 200 boys.

Since the program had stopped for a few years, current boys in P5 and P6 had missed the outing, and the Heritage Team is trying to make up time, and offer the P5 and P6 boys the same outing before the end of this school year.

About the North American Lasallians

This newsletter is aimed at providing an electronic platform for communication & sharing among La Salle old boys in North America. It is not meant to be used as an instrument for promoting any personal agenda.

The editorial board reserves the rights to oversee and edit all submissions, to ensure all contents shall meet our publication standards, as well as appropriate for the newsletter's intended audience & global circulation. Our editorial board has the exclusive right to reject submissions deemed to be not in line, or incompatible with the purpose or spirit of this newsletter at our sole discretion.

Previous issues of the newsletter are available on HKOBA website at <https://www.lscoba.com/north-american-lasallians-newsletter/>

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The Chief editors appreciate Thomas Tsui for his contribution to this issue.

Chief Editors	Victor Leung (77) Kevin Kwok (88) Chris Fong (94) Ambrose Lee (98)
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