



HONG KONG UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO

# NEWSLETTER

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In this issue, we are pleased to communicate to you several exciting events and activities of the Hong Kong University Alumni Association of Ontario (HKUAAO). These functions provide interesting opportunities to connect or re-connect with your alumni friends and we look forward to your participation and support.

## **Mentorship Program**

*by Tim Cheng*

The HKU Mentorship Programme was established in 1997. Not only was it the first such program in Hong Kong's institutions of higher education, it was so successful that it had also become an exemplar of similar programs. HKUAAO is a strong supporter of the HKU's Mentorship Programme. For over 10 years, many of our alumni have volunteered to act as mentors to HKU exchange students ("mentees") who came to Canadian universities in Ontario and Quebec for one or two semesters under the HKU Worldwide Student Exchange Programme.

Often this may be the first time that the students are far away from home. Mentors can provide invaluable assistance to the mentees in helping them quickly settle down and adapt to their new environment. Over time, mentors and their mentees establish a unique relationship through which mentors will help provide guidance to enhance their mentee's development and at the same time gain insights into the younger generations' points of view. Through participation in the Mentorship Programme, mentors can maintain contact with academia and have the satisfaction of knowing that they are playing a role in the development of young inquisitive minds.

This Fall Term there are 21 exchange students coming to Ontario and Quebec, including University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario, University of Waterloo, Queen's University and McGill University. We are happy to report that we have a mentor for each one of them. We plan to invite all the mentees to join the October 14 hiking and dinner so that they have a chance to meet other fellow students and alumni while they enjoy the beautiful fall colours of Ontario.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a mentor please email Dr. K.F. Siu at [drsiukingfun@yahoo.ca](mailto:drsiukingfun@yahoo.ca) or Tim Cheng at [tc@timcheng-ca.com](mailto:tc@timcheng-ca.com).

## Fall Colours Hike and Apple Picking – come and enjoy Oak Ridges Trail, King City

by Danny Lam

Our Hiking Interest Group usually organizes two events a year, in Spring and Fall. The trails are carefully selected to cater for occasional hikers who may have limited experience. The objective is to promote interest in this healthy activity and foster friendship among HKUAAO members and friends. The events are very popular.

This Fall we shall do a 13 km hike on mostly flat and variable terrain. We shall hike to Eaton Hall Lake and Mary Lake and stop at Pine Farms Orchard for refreshments and apple picking. Details are as follows.

**DATE:** Sunday October 14, 2012

**MEETING TIME AND PLACE:** Roadside parking on Keele Street, about 2.5 km north of King Road, King City. Please report to hike coordinators at 1:15pm.

**DIRECTION:**

From the west Take Hwy 400 Exit 43 to King Road. Go east on King Road to Keele Street and turn left (north). Stay on Keele Street, passing Sideroad 15 and meet at roadside parking on the right hand side road shoulder.

From the east Take Hwy 404 exit Bloomington Road. Continue west past Bathurst Street where Bloomington Road will become Sideroad 15. Turn right (north) on Keele Street. Travel for about 1km and meet at roadside parking on the right hand side of road shoulder.

As parking space is not plentiful, **CARPPOOLING IS ENCOURAGED.**

**COST:** Nil for Hiking

**OPTIONAL DINNER PARTY:** After the hike, there is an optional dinner party at 7:00 pm at the Best Dragon Seafood Restaurant at 100 Steeles Ave W in

Thornhill. The cost will be about \$25 per person. Directions to the restaurant will be given out at end of the hike.

**REGISTRATION:**

Please register before October 5, 2011.

Hannah Cheung 張彥華 hannah@acrobag.ca 647-988-1174

Family members and friends are welcome.

Danny Lam 林德明 lamdtm@yahoo.com 647-407-2311

**REMINDER:** Please wear hiking boots or sturdy shoes and bring a hiking stick. There are some ups and downs. Although this trail is not considered difficult, participants must decide if such activity is suitable to their physical capabilities and skill levels. They must inform the hike leaders/coordinators before the start of the hike about any health problems or allergies and the location of any special medications. They must follow the leaders' directions. Parents and guardians must supervise children in their care. You will be asked to sign a waiver of liability and assumption of risk prior to the commencement of the hike.



## **Karaoke - HKUAAO Got Talents**

*by Lily Lee*

The Karaoke Interest Group had two get-togethers this year. Over twenty people participated on Sunday February 26, 2012 at Tam's Music Studio. It was a night of singing and buffet dinner, and you can tell from the pictures that it was great fun. In fact, the event was so much fun that members of our renowned HKUAAO table tennis team abandoned their court to join and tried to impress us that they not only excel at sports but have musical talents good enough to be HKUAAO Idols as well.



The second karaoke event was at PolyArt Music Studio on Saturday, June 16, 2012. Again it drew a crowd. Some 17 people participated, with a good mix of both karaoke enthusiasts as well as newcomers. The magic of karaoke is that it did not take long for freshmen to become converted, sing along and have a good time. The Karaoke Interest Group aims at having quarterly functions eventually. Music lovers, experienced or beginner, you will get to enjoy a good time with alumni friends. To join, please contact Lily Lee 李冰琪 [lilybklee@gmail.com](mailto:lilybklee@gmail.com) 416-756-3228 x 234.

## **Table Tennis and HKJU Tournament December 2012**

*by H.K.Pong*

The Table Tennis Interest Group regularly organises matches for its members to build friendship and raise skill level. On June 2, a doubles tournament was held with 22 players participating. On August 26, twenty six players joined in friendly competitions. Details are reported on the HKUAAO web site, and you will also find master pieces of Chinese poems on table tennis by the members as well. Members of the Interest Group meet every Saturday at the Canadian Chinese Table Tennis Association (CCTTA), 1181 Denison Street, Markham. Anyone interested in playing table tennis can come and join the fun. After a very successful Hong Kong Joint Universities Alumni (Ontario) Table Tennis Tournament in May last year, the HKJU will again organise a table tennis tournament to be held on December 9, 2012 at CCTTA. While the primary objective is to participate and build fellowship with other universities' alumni, we have been preparing ourselves for the tournament. We are currently forming our team of players. We are also looking for volunteers to help with the tournament organization. Those interested please contact H.K.Pong 龐衍祺 at [p\\_hinki@yahoo.com](mailto:p_hinki@yahoo.com) or 416-618-3886.

## "Come for a spin, wine lovers"

*by Wilson Chan*

Wine is worth more than a quick swallow. Predominantly, tasting wine involves inspecting its colors and slowly forming oily legs; swirling to release aromas and sniffing as pretentious wine snobs; detecting components to decipher absolute presence and relative quantities of varietals on the palate. In essence, it provides a chance for friends to sip and gather together. Whether you are familiar with wine, planning a vertical or horizontal tasting; or a beginner merely seeking new nuances for pairing wines with your weekend menu, HKUAAO Wine Tasting Interest Group is the ideal cellar to raise a glass. Email [wilsonchan@bellnet.ca](mailto:wilsonchan@bellnet.ca) to register for upcoming events and be prepared to stroll through the grounds!

## Calling All Badminton Fans

*by T.C. Kwan*

The Badminton Interest Group was newly formed this year after some members indicated their interest in badminton during our HKUAAO annual dinner in March. Several Sunday evening practicing sessions were held in Armadale Community Centre, Markham in June and July. Starting from September 23rd, the Badminton Interest Group will resume the practicing sessions on Sunday afternoon in St. Robert Catholic High School, Thornhill, as arranged by Markham Badminton Club. Those interested to join, please contact T.C.Kwan 關德正 at [tckwanhk@yahoo.com.hk](mailto:tckwanhk@yahoo.com.hk).

## Joint Universities Bowling Tournament

*by Pierre Fan*

The Hong Kong Joint Universities Alumni (Ontario) 2012 Bowling Tournament was held on May 6, 2012. Seven University Alumni Associations participated. HKUAAO proudly sent a team, including spousal reinforcement, of 5 players – Wilbey Chow, Grace Chow, Geoffrey Shang, Lilian Ma and Sidney Chu, to compete. We put up a spirited fight, won 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up in Women's Single as well in the Mixed Group of Three, and was 4th in overall score. Not to be outshined by our star players, our cheering team of a very large constituency in fashionable uniforms fresh off the sewing machines was loud and clear cheering every single delivery of our players. We did not bring the Hong Kong Cup home but we championed the display of high spirit among players, cheering teams and volunteers in support of the HKJU. It was full of joy and fun. The image of our dream team including the volunteers and our constituency in action are in print. Who can beat that?

