

三藩市銀禧加冕典禮散記

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- There was really no better, or more appropriate place to celebrate our Pui Ching Gay (1974) Class's 25th reunion than in San Francisco, the Gay capital of USA where the "Gays" get more respect than any other city in the country. May I suggest, for our 50th reunion/golden coronation, we celebrate on the San Francisco's annual Gay parade day. I bet you that ¼ of the city's population will join us for the party, but not sure if our teachers will join us though!
- I'm the luckiest guy in the SF Bay area. Before our class reunion, I told my two daughters that the prettiest 'twins' (Kong Yeuk Mei) of our primary/secondary school was staying in our house for the 25th reunion weekend. When (Recina) Kong Yeuk Mei and our other classmate (Amy) Chan Chu Po arrived, my 9 year old's first question to them was, "Are you identical twins?" presumably thinking that they were twins. She was in awe to find out later, Amy, who looked like a college graduate herself, has a 21-year old son in college! My 12-year-old now believes there is "Fountain of Youth"!!
- I got "double" honor to have (Franklin) Chui Ming Keung and his lovely wife to stay in our other guest's room. When I told my girls that Franklin had won many gold medals in 110-meter hurdles during our high school 'track & field' days, my 9-year-old didn't believe me (because she couldn't perceive that Franklin, who looked more like a 'well-to-do manager' than an athlete when my daughter saw him). I said, "look, if he wasn't good in conquering 'hurdles', you think he could win the heart from a beautiful woman like Mrs. Chui?"
- Franky (Tai Chi Ping) didn't show up to our Coronation ceremony until last minute, but he came with our "surprised guest" Chan Kwok Keung, whom I hadn't seen for closed to 27 years. My impression of Kwok Keung was same as those high school days that he was kind of quiet, but could be very powerful when he flexed his "Wing Chun martial arts". Sin Tung Wing Walked in to our banquet party and took some pictures, but disappeared before the first course was served. I guess he was still in the "Las Vegas mode" when you go in and out of a casino in 10 minutes if there was no chips on the table!
- On Friday morning, the first day of our SF reunion weekend, Chan Chu Po (Amy), Kong Yeuk Mei (Recina), and three other couples (Leung Chung Ngoc, a.k.a. "Crane", Chui Ming Keung, and myself) were touring Sausalitos. Sausalitos is a romantic town with European settings and spectacular view of the San Francisco Bay and adjacent islands, but nothing was more romantic than the 'Crane couple'. Crane (a Physics professor) and his wife Lily (a Chemistry Ph.D) were holding hands all the times while the rest of us, well, are just the common tourist. I couldn't help later to ask Crane when we could expect the next 'elite' generation of 'Physical Chemist', but Crane's view and concern on this over-populated world might just keep us waiting forever. While I felt depressed of sensing the gene pool of our 'elite Chinese scientists' shrinking, but I must admit I was envy of their '2-person world'.

- On Friday evening, the welcome party was held in the same Hotel for our out-of-town guests. We started drinking in the lounge early just to kick off the party when we finally ended up ‘fighting’ to have the honor of picking up our Teacher Poon Bo Har from Union City (an East Bay town). I jumped on the opportunity to serve, even though my blood alcohol would probably be over the legal limit (so was every classmate in the lounge), but since I knew the East Bay area and I could be a ‘pretty fast’ driver, no one challenged me after all. Fortunately, the Friday rush hour traffic was so congested that the average speed was less than 25 mph, and there was no chance for me to ‘speed’, hence avoiding my first potential DUI (driving under influence) in life and Teacher Poon Bo Har arrived at the party safely!

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