



DOGA

Diocesan Old Girls' Association

www.doga.org.hk

Alumnae Giving

Since the launch of the "Building on Excellence" Campaign two years ago, old girls have responded most generously, in monetary gifts of various sizes, and in time and effort devoted to promoting the Campaign and making appeals to their classmates.

Facility Gifts

Lily Leung, Development Manager, reported that in the category of facility gifts, she has to date on record an impressive total of some \$45.5 million from old girls and their families.

Here are some interesting facts related to several of these gifts: Two gifts came from old girls who have DGS girls in the family for three generations (Alice Lam Cheng '51, and Eva Tan '64). Two sets of sisters/in-laws jointly offered generous gifts (Andrea Lai '90, Michelle Kwock '94, Vivienne Lai '95, and Simmy '52, Peggy '59, Pansy '61 and Yvonne '64 Cheng). Anna Wong '76, whose life-long passion for netball began in her primary school years, had her choice of facility cut out for her - the DGS Netball Court! And for those who may not be aware, DOGA Ltd contributed \$3 million towards a lecture hall.

Class Gifts

11 classes decided to take collective action and pool their contributions to offer their gifts in the names of their class years.

The School Development Office quickly agreed to set up individual accounts for these classes and to keep records of the checks received and to send monthly reports to their class representatives.

We talked to some of the class representatives to find out how their gifts have been taking shape.

Targets – Four classes have pledged to donate a classroom (\$800,000), one a ball court (\$500,000), one a music practice room (\$150,000), and another a plaque on the Celebration Wall (\$300,000 to \$500,000). The others have not fixed a targeted facility. At least two have revised their target sum upwards, because the initial responses exceeded their expectations. Of those who have a fixed targeted facility, two have reached their goal so far, and one is nearing their goal.

Reunions – Reunions have turned out to be excellent opportunities to raise awareness and stimulate classmates to open their pocketbooks. Both the class of 1966 and that of 1977 launched their class gift at their 40th and 30th anniversary reunion in 2006 and 2007 respectively.

As for the class of 1968, Vicky Sung, the class rep, reports that things did not pick up speed until they started to work on their 40th reunion in 2007. By the time it was held in December 2008, they had a neat tidy sum, but are now working to raise more.

The class of 1957 should be awarded the most efficient class in terms of organisation and speed. At their 50th anniversary in 2007, when over 40 classmates and relatives gathered in Hong Kong, they exceeded their goal of \$500,000 in one glorious week of celebrations and fun. Katherine Fok, the class rep, says that the account is still open and that donations are still welcome.



A generous family gift from the four Cheng sisters



And from the Lai sisters and sister-in-law as well



Matching – Setting up matching funds also proves a good way to stimulate giving, as the experience of two classes shows.

Donations were coming in “in drips and drabs” for the class of 1966, Sharon Au reports, when suddenly, a generous offer came from a classmate to match dollar for dollar up to \$50,000, provided that a certain number of new donors and gifts were received within a six month period. This created the needed excitement and the class has now proudly reached the \$500,000 mark and is still counting on getting more.

Sheilah Chatjaval relates a similar matching scheme for the class of 1978, only they have not just one generous soul, but 12! These classmates formed a “cornerstone” and offered to match every \$1,000 with the same amount up to a cap of \$150,000. Their class donation to date exceeds \$400,000.

Overseas classmates – Old girls living abroad, when properly networked and informed, could be a formidable force in their support for the alma mater even though they live thousands of miles away. The examples quoted above all involved the participation of classmates living overseas.

An alumna of the class of 1964, living in Toronto, was instrumental in collecting the gifts of a good number of classmates in North America. To save the School administrative time and money, she gathered all the checks, converted the amount into Hong Kong dollars before depositing it into the class account.

Participation rate – In the experience of the class reps, getting as many classmates as possible to participate is equally, if not more important than the amount they get. The class reps all emphasized that they did not wish classmates to feel any undue pressure and that amounts given were kept confidential. Of all the class gifts set up currently, the class of 1978 would take the prize, if there was one, of the class with the best participation rate. So far, 52 of their classmates have given.



Class reunion gathering of class of 1966 in September 2007



30th reunion class photo of class of 1978 taken in March 2008

Past Activities

The first half of 2009 has been inspiring and memorable for DOGA. As it was the last time that some of our annual gatherings were held at our old school campus, the events turned out to be especially meaningful and nostalgic.

Sketch Your School – March, 2009

Art Club

Before the decanting of both the Junior School and the Senior School from 1 Jordan Road, Art Club members participated in the last Art Club activity held on our familiar campus – ‘Sketch Your School’. With pencils, papers, water colour and pastels on hand, our old girls enjoyed sketching their favorite part of the school, and took home their own artistic renderings of our beloved school.



This must be the Gibbons Block!



Having fun putting their images on paper!



Father and daughter sketching a facade of the school.

Class Representative Tea Gathering – March 2009

Membership Subcommittee

Class representatives met at the 6/F student activities room, DGJS to chat with DOGA General Committee members, mentors, mentees and new members on March 14th.



A relaxed and happy atmosphere of sharing...



Support from the younger class representatives!

In addition to being briefed on major events such as the Farewell Service on March 26th, 2009 and the ongoing Mentoring Program, participants were updated on the School Redevelopment Program and on alumnae giving opportunities to the school's fundraising campaign.

DOGA Netball Team Named Champion – March, 2009

Sports Sub-Committee

DOGA Netball Team played their finals in the Hong Kong Ladies Netball League Division 3 on April 27th, 2009. After an exciting match, the DOGA team defeated the Hong Kong Football Club team with a score of 23 -18, bringing a halt to the latter's attempt to seize the Grand Slam by winning in all four divisions. CONGRATULATIONS!

While the DOGA Team was Champion in Division 4 last year, other netball teams were amazed that we won the Championship so soon this year in Division 3. A bigger challenge lies ahead. The team will have to play in Division 2 next year which is a substantially more competitive league. But with the DGS spirit, there is no doubt that our ladies will continue to do their best.

The Netball Team is looking for new members. Interested old girls, please write to doga.sports@gmail.com



Team captain Anna makes a shot....



Good defense from our team!



Our winning team this year at Division 2!

'Spirit of Sharing' Tea Reception – March, 2009

Social Sub-Committee

Held on March 14th at the school's Junior Hall, the event featured an enlightening agenda of sharing by three old girls from different professions - **Cherry Tse** JP (Class of 1978), Commissioner for Labour, HKSAR, **Robyn Lamsam** (Class of 1994), Sports Commentator & Professional MC and Marie So (Class of 1995), Founder, Ventures In Development. The three old girls reminisced about their fond memories of DGS, and shared how the DGS education has influenced their lives and made them the successful career women they are today.

When asked about their mottos for life, Cherie emphasized the importance to be retrospective and remain modest and content; Robyn cited the importance of living everyday to its fullest and having no regrets; while Marie live by her "PIG" philosophy - doing everything with Passion, Integrity and Guts.



Speakers on stage - Marie, Robyn and Cherry.



Guest speakers with our hosts.

Our Fond Memories of the School

We asked members of our General Committee which are some of the places they would miss most in the old campus and what special memories do they have of these places. Here are their responses.

What I miss most is memory of the old school hall... the gong next to the door, rung by the amah telling us we were late for assembly.... the ropes on the side of the hall which doubled as Gym.... the stone wall with bramble and large iron door which shut off the front garden from the eyes of the public and worrisome parents..... the No 10 bus at our door that whisked us to Tsim Sha Tsui for lunch in no time e.g. yummy Shanghai Noodle in Hanoi Road.....

Vivian Taam (class of 1962)

As I wander with my recollections, I see myself walking up the stairs of the Centenary Building (Symons Block). It was new then, cars were fewer and the air less polluted. Looking out from the balcony, an unknown world beckoned, but I felt safe and protected, within the nurturing enclosures of the school.

Loretta Pang (class of 1964)

The place I miss most is the school hall -- with the round bubble lights, the curtains and floor boards, with memories of CJ standing behind the podium saying her prayers, telling stories, or telling us off every morning.

Stephanie Cheung (class of 1967)

From the old tree next to the entrance to the echoing sounds of chapel, DGS is a place where many of my high school memories are created. Every detail of the school paints a color on my teenage canvas.

Shirley Chan (class of 1970)

I would miss the netball court outside the senior hall. I have fond memories of rushing down to the netball court in the mornings and during breaks to play netball with my friends. We would distinguish between the opposing teams with either the uniform belt off or on, and we would make up special rules as well. Lasting friendships have been made on that court!

Sheilah Cheng Chatjaval (class of 1978)

The refreshing green field where we can
...take leisurely strolls with our best friends,
...catch dragonflies during recesses,
...sit down and eat our lunches,
...race against each other on Sports Days,
...visit bazaar booths and play fun games.

Eva Lau (class of 1978)

I think it has to be the school hall, and the buzz of excitement when concerts and school productions were held there, as well as CJ 's morning assemblies.

Yvonne Chiu (class of 1980)



The cookery room... the meticulous cleaning up after each baking or cooking;
 The common room... where we rested, chatted and had snacks!
 The swimming pool and 'Gun Shuk'... place of hard work and sweat during lunchtime and after school! 'Gun Shuk' would come over to offer words of encouragement and chat with us when we were stressed out. He always made sure the pool was clean enough for us to swim (using a net to skillfully take out the yellow leaves and chinks).

Connie Lung (class of 1981)

The most memorable part of the school is the senior school balcony...it was very impressive when Governor MacLehose visited DGS in the year 1978 and the whole school stood and sang at the school balcony to welcome him, just like what our girls did at the Farewell Ceremony on March 26th, 2009.

Teresa Tse (class of 1981)

"The Bell and the Tree
 Utensils for Cookery;
 Hymn Book and Bunsen Burner,
 Instruments for the Orchestra;
 Lunches in the Middle Garden
 PE and Swimming Lessons;
 Two halls and the Assembly
 And a friendly and caring Faculty"
Esther Ma (class of 1983)

The Senior school front gate...always a welcoming door for those returning.

The Cookery Room...where we kneaded and baked and had fun!

The solemn quietness of girls taking exams in the senior hall, the cheers and laughter of girls running around the field, the cheering of teams at the swimming pool....

Audrey Tam (class of 1989)



The Senior Hall with the buzz of excitement where concerts and school productions were held



The swimming pool where our swimming classes were held



The Senior School balcony...glorious moments of school spirit and unity

Upcoming Events

October 14, 2009	DOGA Annual Dinner
December, 2009	DGS/DGJS Mini Bazaar

Details of the events will be updated periodically. Please visit www.doga.org.hk to obtain the latest information.

DOGA Office: 101 Castle Peak Road, Sham Shui Po, Hong Kong SAR.

Tel: 2771 5881, Email: doga.info@gmail.com

Joining DOGA

Any old girl of DGS or DGJS (whether resident or abroad) who has completed at least one academic year at DGS or DGJS is eligible to apply for membership of DOGA Ltd. Details of the application can be found at www.doga.org.hk.

Class Reunion Gathering

Alumnae who are interested in organizing their class reunion gathering at the School, please contact DOGA office for further information.