

Newsletter - Vol 17 - Issue One – Spring 2007

Dim sum & bowling (Feb 3) by Kenny Eng

Dim sum & bowling has been a huge success for AO in the past 2-3 years, and so is our Feb 3rd's event—we had about 50 participants. And we still had about 15 people on the waiting list. It was unfortunate that we were unable to accommodate everyone. Some people sent in their RSVP that very Saturday morning and this event was closed about one week ago.

Everyone had a great time at dim sum, eating and catching up on the latest gossips with people that they have not seen for a while. It was nice to see a lot of new people at the event.

After we filled ourselves with noodles, lotus leaf rice, har gao, siu mai, steamed spare ribs and other fine exotic dishes, we all headed to the bowling ally by carpooling. Before we started bowling, I didn't know that Asians could be that loud: people were cheering and yelling after each bowler made a strike or a spare. Quite obvious that everyone was having a great time.

I would like to thank Susannah for her help in making this a very successful event.

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I thought the dim sum / bowling event was great! This was the first time that I've attended this type of event, and it was the first time I've been to Flushing (except to see a Met game at Shea). The restaurant (Ocean Jewel Seafood Restaurant) was a great choice. It was huge and it had multiple smaller rooms for a more private, cozy feel. The large, diverse selection of dim sum was incredible. They kept serving & serving. We never had to wait for the food we wanted. Much better than Chinatown. Plus the atmosphere of the restaurant was not as harried or as loud as Chinatown. This was the biggest turnout I've personally seen for an AO event. The large round tables can seat 10 and offered much more interaction with the people sitting around you - great for meeting people. I met new member Mike Chung and got reacquainted with other members that I haven't seen in a long time. After dim sum, we headed over to Jib Lanes to go bowling. Since I haven't bowled in 3 years, and 20+ years before that time, I was looking forward to bowling. I knew I'd be bad at first, but didn't think I would be as pitiful as I was in the first game, bowling only an 81. I was determined to get a few more strikes and spares in the 2nd game and I HAD to break 100. Not sure what I did differently, but I did get more strikes and spares and did break 100, winding up with a 107. I was happy with that cause I was having a good time and it wasn't a competition. I was glad to see the girls on my team bowling better than me! The bowling alley was another great place to mingle and get to know other people. I purposely sought out to be on a team with people that I totally didn't know. It made for great conversation and it was interesting to find out where people work and what they do, only to find out they work nearby me. A good way to make

new friends. I noticed that some people didn't bowl, but had a good time anyway because they mingled and got reacquainted with people they haven't seen in a long time and caught up on old times. Bowling was confusing at first because nobody understood about the lane switching, but we eventually got used to it and noticed it moved the game quicker given 12 people were on 2 lanes. Kudos go out to Susannah & Kenny for running the event. I know it was a lot of work with so many people attending, especially collecting all the bowling money - well done!

George Kenney

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Thank You

The Asian Outdoors BoD wishes to thank all the volunteers who served as Outings/Event Leaders and Administrative Staff for their time and effort in keeping AO active. The 2006 Volunteers are:

Armando Jimenez, Anne Lim, Atakorn Tangtrakul, Eve Shieh, Gordon Lee, Henry [NJ] Wong, Henry [PA] Wong, Herb Chong, Jan Hu, Jayne Wong, Jean Lee, Jenny Cheung, John Wong, Kelvin Mark, Kevin Miller, Leo Hsiao, Luke Chen, Michelle Lu, Nancy Ho, Rita Lai, Sandy Long, Shan Li, Stephan Tam, Steven Liu, Susannah Yung, Tim Wong, Tony Tsai and Ying Chan

When you meet them on future outings; please thank them. A thank you goes a long way.

Alaska Anyone?

Ten years ago; AO ran a group trip on a cruise up the Inside Passage to Alaska. Now it's ten years later and Alaska's Great Outdoors still beckons.

In 1997; we had fifteen AO'ers on the trip. We were trying to get group rates but our group was not big enough. We needed sixteen people and although we were one person short we were way short in the requirement for a group rate. It was supposed to be sixteen people occupying eight staterooms but we would up with quads and triples instead and we only had six rooms.

Is there any interest in another AO Cruise to Alaska tentatively planned for the end of Summer 2008? It would be shoulder season then and rates are a bit lower than the height of summer. We are talking about September right after Labor Day Weekend, and no it is not terribly cold yet. The warming waters of the Japan Current moderates the air temperatures at this time of year. It is a known fact that water adapts to changing temperatures slowly – thus in June which is

also shoulder season – the water is still cold and it enhances colder degrees in June as opposed to September.

The trip would be two parts; the weeklong cruise followed by an optional half to full week on land depending on the length of the add on to the cruise. The land portion would be by train to Denali National Park. To gauge what interest there is please contact me at send2bell@gmail.com

Up and Coming Events

Saturday – April 7th – Off Road Biking
Saturday – April 14th - Orienteering
Saturday – April 21st – DimSum/Bowling [Tentative]
Saturday – May 12th – Rock Scrambling
Saturday – May 19th – Bike Outing
Saturday – June 9th – Cincip “Save the date”
Sunday – June 10th – Raindate
Saturday – June 23rd – WW Rafting
Friday – June 29th – Sunday – July 1st – Camping Weekend
Saturday - July 7th – Bushwhacking/Hike
Friday – July 27th – Sunday – July 29th – Camping Weekend
Friday – Aug 31st – Sept 3rd [Labor Day Weekend] – Cabin Camping
Saturday – Sept 8th-15th – Nantucket Week