

## VANCOUVER SINGAPORE CLUB

#### VSC F-NFWs

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Issue 3/2007

**GREETINGS FROM YOUR EDITOR** 

Summer came and went so quickly. However, your Exco members did not allow it to go off without making full use of the pleasant warmth.

The annual picnic was cancelled and in its place, the MakanFest2007 was held on 22 September 2007. Please see the report on this exciting event in this issue of VSC E-NEWs.

The Club celebrated Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> National Day with a dinner and dance on 10 August 2007. Members, guests and sponsors overwhelmingly supported this event. The highlight of the evening was the Singapore style auctioning of a Singapore return air ticket donated by Singapore Airlines and the Nokia N95 Mobile phone donated by Leap International, Singapore.

Although all your Exco members tired themselves out in organising the events, we were encouraged by the happy faces and comments from participants. We were happy to receive the very supportive email from Campbell Wilson, VP of SIA after he and his staff attended the National Day event. He wrote:

"Congratulations on an excellent night on Friday. Great food and an exceptionally well-run event. Great job."

In recognition of the staunch support of the Club, Life Members will be invited to a Life Members' Networking Evening with good food, fun and friendship. An email will be sent to all Life Members shortly.

The Club had recently purchased a karaoke set. The Exco is planning to have a Members' Night including karaoke in the coming months.

The Exco is undergoing a process of self-renewal. The Club now has a logo that reflects the fresh and professional approach of a modern Singapore-oriented club. This logo was jointly developed by the President and Vice President.

Members are encouraged to contribute articles of general interest. If there are any major milestones in your life or celebration within your family, please let us know. We hope to share them with members through VSC E-NEWs.

Have a great and enjoyable autumn.

Yee Hua Tan, Editor Email: yeehua@shaw.ca

# Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> National Day Dinner & Dance 10 August 2007

The Club celebrated Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> National Day Dinner and Dance on Friday 10 August 2007 with a scrumptious full course seafood dinner at the Continental Seafood Restaurant in Richmond. Three hundred and twenty one attendees, in their best outfits were present for the evening. We had to turn away last minute requests for extra tickets, as too much logistics and operational issues were involved to create extra tables.

After welcoming the attendees, the President of the Club, Mr Teong Sin Kwek acknowledged our thanks to the advertisers, supporters and donors for their generosity. He told all who were present that they were truly the VIPs and that we were there to continue Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> National Day celebration with good food, music and close friends.

The singing of the national anthems of Singapore and Canada followed. After the photo taking session of the Executive Committee, Wilson Wong sang 2 Singaporean songs for the audience.

During the dinner, attendees were entertained by dance performances – an Indian dance and a Hawaiian dance. A Singapore National Costume Competition followed with the top 3 prizes going to 3 very charming ladies in a sari, cheongsam and sarong kebaya respectively.

It was a prizes galore evening for everyone, many thanks to all the generous sponsors. Swarovski crystals, gift vouchers, meal vouchers, NDP 2007 special edition goodie bags, wine and many others made up the list of attractive prizes. Everyone went home with a gift or prize. There were gift vouchers and table draws for all attendees. A total of 89 prizes were drawn that evening and many of the attendees went home with more than one prize.

The highlight of the evening was the live auction of the SIA ticket, Nokia N95 Mobile Phone, whiskey set and bottles of wine. This was the first time in the history of the club where the SIA ticket was auctioned off to the highest bidder, to raise funds for the club. It attracted a generous bid from a supportive life member's relative.

The bidding for the high end multi-feature N95 Nokia phone, generously donated by Leap International Pte Ltd of Singapore, like the SIA ticket, was hotly contested. It went to a very happy Life Member who got it for his son.

The live auction was fun and reminded many Singaporeans and ex-Singaporeans of the lively and competitive auctions that are common with community dinners in Singapore.

This year, the Exco Members decided to do away with the hiring of a band and singers with substantial savings. Instead, attendees danced to the music and songs performed by experienced karaoke singers organised by Wilson Wong and Ken Lau. The performance was truly superb.

It was an enjoyable evening for almost all attendees and the Exco had received many complimentary remarks about the event.

For those who missed this enjoyable event, please contact us early to book your seat for the Chinese New Year Dinner and Dance to be held early next year.

#### Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> National Day Dinner & Dance 10 August 2007































#### Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> National Day Dinner & Dance 10 August 2007































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Wow! What a happy crowd! From the Board of Directors to our Life and Ordinary members and guests – there were smiles. MakanFest2007 is a great success.

The Exco Members wanted to have a brand new way to enable members to meet, network and get to know each other better. We thought that it would be great to have a convenient location that would not be subjected to the vagaries of the weather and the ongoing civil strikes, and provide lots of good Singaporean food.

Many members arrived well before the start of the event at 12 noon. The aroma of Singaporean cuisines wafted out of the kitchen and this even attracted several people in the neighbourhood who came asking if they could attend.

Despite having to leave Vancouver the same afternoon, Campbell Wilson, Vice President, Singapore Airlines, came by to lend support to this event. A Life Member, Kok Yen Ping, at his advanced age, wanted to be with our members, even just for a short while.

Several Exco members were at the venue a night before the event to set up and prepare the place for the crowd. Hours before the 1<sup>st</sup> attendee arrived, all Exco members were there to prepare the place and cooking up a storm. Fresh ingredients were painstakingly prepared to ensure the authenticity of the Singaporean tastes. There were Fried Hokkien Mee, Chai Tow Kway, Penang Laksa, Fried Chicken Wings and Malay Rojak. For desserts, Red Bean Soup and Pulut Hitam, Fruit Cocktail and Tapioca cakes were served. Each attendee was given a bottle of mineral water and coffee/tea were available .. free flowing.

Besides the variety and quantity of good Singaporean cuisines, members were entertained with music and karaoke.

Because of the generosity of our Life Member, Horace Bong, we were able to give away many valuable prizes, including Chinese pashmina, Russ soft toys and picnic mats. Contact Singapore also provided beautiful pen/pencil sets.

Jeannine Sheares and Albert Lee organised two very interesting games – Canada/Singapore Knowledge quiz and Scavengers' Hunt. Members and guests actively participated in these games and won many prizes.

After the last member left at 3 pm, the exco went into full gear to clear the crockery and mess left on the tables. Although the Exco members tired themselves organising and delivering this event, we are so glad that members were able to enjoy themselves.

At the last count, a total of 135 members and guests came out to support this event.

Members are a responsible bunch – they responded quickly and timely when the announcement was circulated via email. This enabled the Exco to plan for appropriate amount of food and effectively manage the logistics. We would encourage our members to continue this courtesy.



VSC 2007/2008

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS











































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You can view more photos of this event and download them at: <a href="http://picasaweb.google.com/VSC.Events/MAKANFEST2007">http://picasaweb.google.com/VSC.Events/MAKANFEST2007</a>

### Coming Events

Please mark your calendar and register early for the following events:

#### 1) Karaoke / Members Night

Date and Venue will be announced shortly. Please look out for the announcement that will be sent to you by email.

#### 2) Life Members Networking Evening

Details of this event will be sent by email to all Life Members.

Registration and payment by: 23 November 2007

#### 3) 2008 Chinese New Year Dinner and Dance

Date: Saturday, 2 February 2008 Time: 6.00 pm to 12 midnight

Venue: Continental Seafood Restaurant

150-11700 Cambie Road Richmond, BC, Canada

Format: 10-Course Gourmet Seafood Dinner & Dance

Price: Members - \$35 per person

Guests - \$40 per person

Registration and payment by: 18 January 2008

Details of these events will be sent out by emails shortly.

#### **Registration Reminder:**

As all events require substantial logistics and the venues/facilities may limit the number of participants, the Exco wishes to remind all members that if they wish to participate in any activity of the Club, they should register / pay in the manner and by the deadline set out in the notification emails. Priority will always be given to members and based on the date of their response.

#### Ordinary Membership Renewal Reminder:

If your membership has expired recently, please mail your membership subscription renewal payment to:

Vancouver Singapore Club, 2719 Main Street, Vancouver, B.C. V5T 3E9