



北美風沙 The North American LaSallians

May 2017

Invitation

La Salle College Old Boys Global Reunion 2018 August 1 – 8, 2018

Dear Old Boys,

On behalf of La Salle College Old Boys Association, the New York/East Coast Chapter is pleased to invite you and your family to the upcoming Global Reunion in August 2018. We hope everyone will provide the same level of support for this reunion as we received for the 2008 Global Reunion in New York City.

Today, our Preparation Committee is rolling out the 2018 Global Reunion Website for your consideration and action. The website contains all program details including schedule, costs, registration, payment etc. This site will be periodically updated to keep everyone posted. Please kindly visit the official website at WWW.2018LSCREUNION.COM to learn all about the exciting events we have organized for the enjoyment of your entire family. Also, don't forget to visit the FAQs page for the rationale and reasons related to our planning efforts.

Within the available resources of our chapter, we are fully committed to achieving a successful reunion for all participants. Therefore, please feel free to contact Peter Lai, our committee chair at laip888@gmail.com if you have any questions or suggestions. We look forward to hearing from everyone soon.

Best Regards,

Simon Willis (1983)

President, New York/East Coast Chapter

About this newsletter

This newsletter is aimed at providing an electronic platform for communication among La Salle College old boys residing in North America. However, it shall not be used as a tool to promote any personal agenda. The editorial board therefore reserves the right to review and edit all submissions to ensure that no inappropriate contents appear in any issue of this newsletter. The editorial board also reserves the right to reject any submission that is not in line with the objective of this newsletter. Please send all your communications to editors@lscobaedm.org.

To subscribe to this newsletter, please email (with subject line : subscribe) to newsletter-lscobaedm.org-subscribe@lscobaedm.org.

Newsletter Committee comprises of the following members :

East Coast (USA)	Christopher Tse (1965), Peter Lai (1967)
Edmonton	Calvin Chan (1971)
San Francisco Bay Area	Ephrem Fung (1976), Ambrose Lee (1998)
Southern California	Eddie Shek (1985)
Toronto	Felix Leung (1985), Kevin Kwok (1988), Jimmy Chang (1966)
Vancouver	Nick Domingo (1963), Richard Choo (1977)

Reminders

East Coast (USA)

Sunday Dim Sum Lunch

Date every Sunday
Time noon
Venue Asian Jewels Seafood Restaurant
133-30 39th Avenue, Flushing NY 11354
Tel. 718-359-8600
Contact dimsum@nylscoba.org

Edmonton

Monthly Dim Sum Gathering

Date May 5, 2017 (first Friday of each month)
Time noon
Venue Urban China Restaurant 潮樓大酒樓
Contact billshwong@shaw.ca

Southern California

Monthly Dim Sum Gathering

Date every first Sunday
Time noon to 2 pm
Venue Empress Harbor Seafood Restaurant
111 N. Atlantic Blvd., 3/F, Monterey Park

Toronto

2017 AGM and Dinner

Date 15 May 2017 (Monday)
Venue Golden Palace Banquet 金廷宴
3225 Hwy 7 (Unit 1),
Markham, Ontario L3R 3P3
Cost \$45/person, \$25/person, Free for old
boys 80 years of age
Contact Albert Ho (53)
albert33ho@gmail.com
Ambrose Cheung (70)
amcheung@hotmail.com
Chris Fong (93)
shihangfong@yahoo.com

Vancouver

2017 AGM and Dinner

Date May 15, 2017
Time 6 pm (meeting), 7 pm (dinner)
Venue Red Star Chinese Seafood Restaurant
#2200 - 8181 Cambie Road
Cost \$30 per person. Please note that the
Association subsidizes about \$25 per
person for this meal.



Chapter News

San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

LSCOBASF: Dinner with Bro. Steve Hogan

Reported by Ambrose Lee '98



Bro. Steve Hogan, former Principal of our alma mater, came to visit San Francisco.

12 Bay Area LaSallians greeted him at Grand Harbor Restaurant in Burlingame on April 12th.

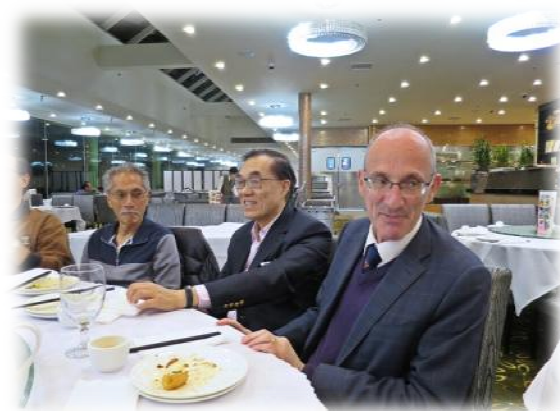
Bro. Steve's first visit to San Francisco was in 2012. He came here alone to explore ways to help our boys to further their studies in North America.

During that visit, he traveled to Vancouver, San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and several other cities in the East Coast. He knocked on the doors of well-known community colleges and universities to introduce our alma mater and brought back essential guidance to prepare our boys' future.

Young LaSallians who had benefited from his works are now studying at famous universities including UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Davis, University of Southern California, University of British Columbia, Columbia University, University of Toronto. etc. and many other community colleges.

Even today, months after he stepped down from being our Principal, he is still helping our alma mater to connect with North American schools, and in many other means that one may overlook.

*Bro. Steve Hogan is currently the Principal of Oakhill College, a famous college in New South Wales, Australia that is also run by De La Salle Brothers.





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[Upper Row (Left) : Homer Yau '85; Jonathan Law '72; John Leung '78; Danny Cheng '73; Ambrose Lee '98; Kelvin Hui '15; David Tong '01; Lower Row (Left) Albert Chan '67; Francis Siu '61; George Law '66; Bro. Steve Hogan; George Lau '67; Joshua Law '68]

This time, we greeted Bro. Steve as 5 years ago, with the addition of a young LaSallian, Kelvin Hui '15, who is now studying at De Anza College in Mountain View.

Bro. Steve first became our Principal when Kelvin was in lower form. He remembered vividly every encouragement from Bro. Steve when he was representing our school in sports competitions, and also the great help from Bro. Steve when he was applying to schools in the U.S.

Kelvin's story is just one of the many. Similar thankful greetings from young LaSallians should occur when Bro. Steve visits Vancouver and Los Angeles in this trip.

Thank you!

Bro. Steve, thank you again in helping our boys and our school for the past years!

Thank you for coming to visit us again!

We hope you enjoy your trip and may God Bless you for your new mission in Australia!

Special thanks to George Law '66 for coordinating this joyful dinner and George Lau '66 for driving Bro. Steve. Thank you all for coming and gave Bro. Steve a warmth welcoming dinner!

Yours in La Salle,

LSCOBASF (Bay Area) Chapter

Our official facebook webpage: www.facebook.com/lscobasf



Special Contribution

Berlin Beckoning

Anthony Luk (1966)
Pictures: Maureen Luk

For a while, Berlin has been calling out to me. Since our son Aaron moved there nearly a year prior, we wanted to spend Thanksgiving with him. Though this would be the third visit to this historic and cultural city for my wife Maureen, she promptly made our travel plans. For eight days we lodged in Kurfürstendamm, within walking distance to the renowned Zoologischer Garten.

First Impressions

On the evening of November 21, we wasted no time in reaching the Brandenburg Gate. It was a demarcation separating East Berlin and West Berlin and now is a majestic monument with four-horse chariot and the Goddess of Peace riding on the top symbolizing peace and unity. Standing in front of the nearby Reichstag building, the modernization effort of British architect Norman Foster with his ingenious glass dome reinforces the

significance of the reunification of Germany – forsaking past failures and emerging to lead the European Union. Adjacent to this segment of the Spree River is the Chancellery, where Chancellor Angela Merkel and a host of government departments labor their executive tasks. We wound our way to the Museum Island but did not go inside any of the museums due to construction work.



Brandenburg Gate in the evening



Reichstag Building housing the German Parliament



The Chancellery along a segment of the Spree River

On subsequent days, we returned to the eastern part of Berlin along that section of Unter den Linden and toured Humboldt University, German History Museum (GHM), Berlin Cathedral, and St. Hedwig's [Catholic] Church. The GHM audio guide paced us through the turbulent German history and provided us time to visit the museum annex designed by I. M. Pei. Once again, the Chinese-American architect inspires visitors with his signature glass canopy over the courtyard that connects the old and new wings, and a spiral staircase next to tall glass panels forming the exterior walls of the extension.

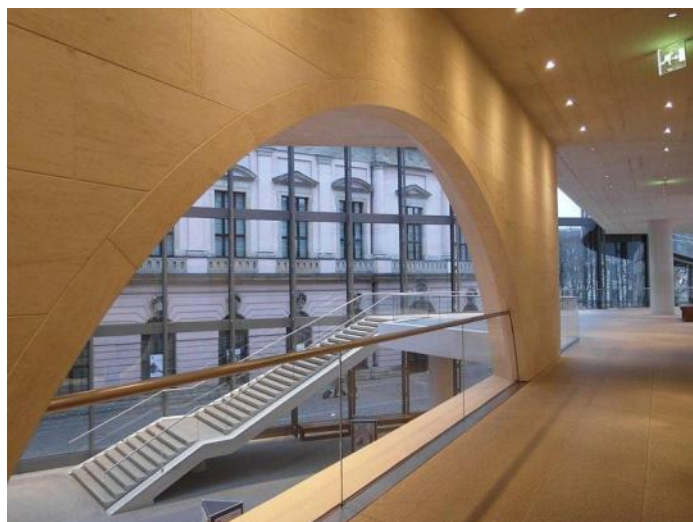


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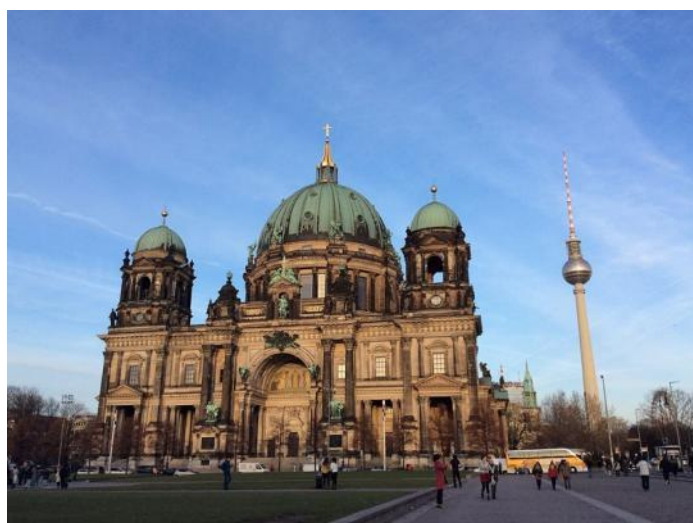
Humboldt University



A view from the new wing of the German History Museum



I.M. Pei's spiral staircase in the new wing of the German History Museum



Berlin Cathedral and the Fernsehturm (Television Tower)



The altar of the Berlin Cathedral



The dome ceiling of the Berlin Cathedral



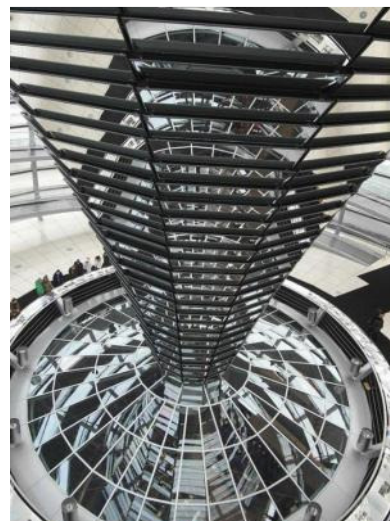
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The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe is south of the Brandenburg Gate. The Memorial is Germany's public atonement for its atrocities against millions of Jews during WWII. Thousands of grave-like pillars of different dimensions laid obtusely and indistinctly of any order on nearly five acres of this central district. The juxtaposition of the Gate and the Memorial is most poignant.



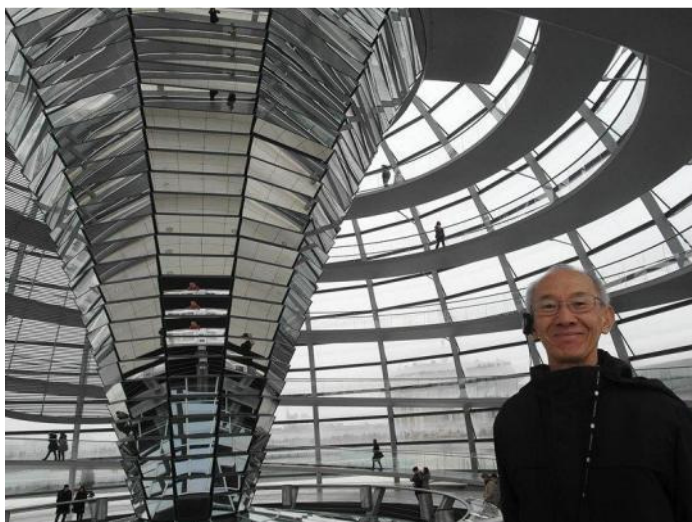
The Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe



Visitors can view the actions inside the German Parliament

A Closer Look

Maureen and I submitted our requests to enter the Reichstag building and got the passes to visit on Friday morning, November 25. Following a group of visitors, we took the elevator to the base of the glass cupola (Norman Foster's dome constructed on the roof of the renovated Reichstag) and each got a free GPS-driven audio guide. As we walked up the spiral ramp, the audio guide would direct us to gaze at the surrounding Berlin cityscape. The process of identifying the landmarks that we had visited or would visit helped us register their geographical relationships. Continuing our ascent, we admired the design of the central cone with hundreds of mirrors that reflect sunlight down to bathe the parliament assembly hall. Through here, visitors can look at the German Bundestag in action, symbolizing transparency in government. Another unique design is the revolving sun shield that tracks the sun as the earth rotates, and blocks any direct sunlight from penetrating the assembly hall. Reaching the top of the dome, one can walk around the circular platform to have a bird's eye view of the panorama. We walked around the Reichstag roof to capture again the cityscape and to peek at the offices below. Being in the open air and under cold weather for over two hours, we treated ourselves a cup of latte and cakes at the Reichstag's Dachgarten restaurant.



The spiraling ramps and the 360 reflecting mirrors inside Norman Foster's glass cupola



The dome as seen on the rooftop of the Reichstag



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Berlin Wall Memorial

At the Berlin Wall Memorial on Bernauer Strasse, we paid tribute to the 136 victims during the intense division between East Berlin and West Berlin. We looked at the remnants of the Berlin Wall, pictures of the victims, and listened to the audio announcing their names and the date of their demise in German and English. The Berlin Wall fell on November 9, 1989 and the event heralded the reunification of Germany on October 3, 1990.



The Berlin Wall Memorial on Bernauer Strasse



Commemorating the victims of the Berlin Wall

Christmas Markets

On early Sunday morning, we walked through and photographed the Christmas market at the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church, before the stalls were open. The next day we toured the Christmas market at Gendarmenmarkt, neatly lining the square in front of the Konzerthaus Berlin. On each side of the Berlin Symphony's Concert Hall are the German Church and the French Church. Their prominent domes compete for equal attention.



Christmas market at
the Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church



Christmas market in front of the
Berlin Symphony's Concert Hall at Gendarmenmarkt



The Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church



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The German Church

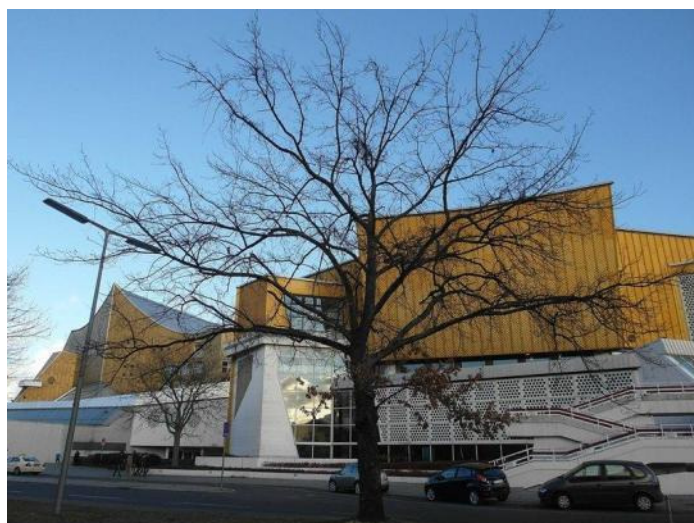


The French Church

Concert Lovers

We attended three concerts at the renowned Berliner Philharmonie Concert Hall. The first one was a free Tuesday lunch concert of chamber music. Aaron joined us on the second concert on Sunday, November 27, where we sat on the first row seats slightly to the left of the piano, watching Avan Yu (余沛霖) perform Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 with Sergej Bolkhovets conducting the Sinfonie Orchester Schoeneberg. According to his website, Avan was born in Hong Kong, grew up in Vancouver, won numerous prestigious awards including the 12th Sydney International Piano Competition, is now studying with Klaus Hellwig at the Berlin University of the Arts, and is also interested in conducting.

For our grand finale on Monday, November 28, Aaron treated us to the concert under the baton of Wolfgang Roese with the ORSO Orchestra and Choral Society. The choral ensemble consisted of 350 male and female vocalists from different choral groups including one from Iceland. They would render their voices in Ralph Vaughan Williams' Symphony No. 1. Before the concert, maestro Roese spoke in German and English announcing dozens of refugees in the audience, whose attendance was sponsored by ORSO's patrons, and stating that "we are all refugees in the world." An ORSO organizer followed by saying that the proceeds from the concert would be used to prepare another boat to rescue refugees in the Mediterranean Sea and so far in 2016, they had rescued 6,500 refugees. That night, the music and the spirituality of Antonin Dvorak's Symphony No. 9 deeply penetrated the mind and souls of the audience. According to Wikipedia, Dvorak composed the popular New World Symphony in 1893 and Neil Armstrong took a recording of it to the moon during the Apollo 11 mission. Come to think of it – what makes us free and soar high?



Berliner Philharmonie Concert Hall



The main concert hall of the Berlin Philharmonie



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Mindfulness

Berlin offers much more than I could absorb in eight days. Berliners are friendly -- in each encounter, they answered our questions with clear directions. The public transportation is convenient. A bus driver in Potsdam waited for us as we were running towards his bus stop. Few passengers looked at their mobile devices. They would either read their newspapers or converse with their commuting friends. Elementary school children, too, would use the same public facility to schools by themselves as early as 7:00 a.m. when the outside temperature was in the mid 30's Fahrenheit.

The transformation of Germany since its reunification demonstrates its national leadership and the cognizance of its citizens. The records of past tragedies are displayed openly. A

few Internet articles reported that some senior citizens shed tears upon climbing up the dome of the Reichstag. The younger generation is mindful of the country's role in the European Union, absorbing the lessons of the history that surrounds them at every turn in this city.



Tuesday lunch concert in the foyer of the Berliner Philharmonie

Class 1987 Reunion

The Class of 1987 will celebrate our 30th Anniversary this year. We shall organize a Homecoming Celebration on 15th July 2017. Here are the details:

Venue	La Salle College
Date	15th July, 2017
Time	to be confirmed
Activities	School tour, sports, pre-dinner cocktail and Gala Dinner, and more
Ticket price	\$1300 for adult \$650 for children in secondary school Free of charge for children in primary school or below
Contact	Constantine Au at aucons@gmail.com or WhatsApp: +852 67721185