

WE ! OTC

OASIS TRAINING CENTER

Unforgettable Trip—Beijing Connection of 2007

By Angela Ma

Going to Beijing was an unexpected bonus for me this year from being an intern at OTC. I enjoyed going as a helper because I got to see all that goes on behind the scenes to make this connection work.

Although this is the fifth time for the connection to be organized, each year the students experience something very new that they've never experienced before. For example, this year is the first time for the students to take a plane to Beijing. For almost all the students, this was their first time to take a plane. I still remember several screams from the students when the plane took off. Another new experience is we went to an aquarium to see the dolphin show. We've only seen it on TV before, but when that cute



Swimming

animal appeared in front of us and did so many incredible movements, we just couldn't control our excitement and clapped our hands all the way through the show.



Winners of the game

Beijing Connection of 2007 has already become the past tense. And the things you did or experienced will be a treasure in your memory.

I think that our Beijing Connection is more than a winter camp. It is a bridge which brought those who we didn't know before and became friends later; it is a window which opened the students' eyes and let them notice how fast the world changes; It is also a book which sharpened their thoughts and let them know that knowledge can change their fate!

I enjoyed my second Beijing Trip a lot, and I hope others enjoyed it as much as I did.

Places that We Visited:

- **Acrobat Show**
- **Aquarium-fish**
- **Beijing Zoo**
- **Cloisonné Exhibition**
- **Forbidden City**
- **Hutong Tour**
- **Pearl Market**
- **Summer Palace**
- **Tea House**
- **The Great Wall**
- **Tian Anmen Square**
- **World Park**

In the Beijing Connection of 2007, Grade one students met a lot of American friends, and visited many places. For most of them, this is the first time for them to take a tour of our capital. This is also the first time for the students to take a plane to Beijing. Are you interested in who they met on this trip, or their feelings about taking an airplane? Let's find the answer in the following quotes that I chose from their articles . ☺



Holly Li: "Marcy is a very good singer for all of the people during that time. When it was someone's birthday, she always offered herself to sing songs. She sings songs loudly with lots of fun in it. And her beautiful voice made everyone happy."



Lori Wang: "My best American friend is Natalie. She is very shy and quiet. She did not like to talk with others. She is a special girl. I never saw a black girl before I met her. I always found topics to talk with her about, and at last I got Natalie's trust."



Melissa Yang: "One day, when I talked with Ms. Lou, I found there was something wrong with her throat. I was very worried about her. I had some medicine, so I took all of it to Ms. Lou. Later on, she was feeling better. I am very happy. Of course, she took good care of me, too."



Richard He: "One of my favorite American friends on this Beijing Trip is Teresa Hilligoss. It is she that gave me the new target in my life." "From her actions and words, I know the best way in life is happiness." "Thank you for this new eternal aim. I will walk step by step in this way to the end."



Sophia Sun: "This Beijing trip was a very interesting experience, and I will not ever forget it. I met many American friends, but I could not spend a lot of time with each of them. I did spend time with Ms. Susan because we are in the same group." "I think she is a good friend. A friend who can bring happiness to you, and share your sadness. She also is a person who tries her best to do something for you without getting something



Celia Feng: "Judy was so kind. When I could not understand what she said, she would smile at me and say 'You can ask me. I'm glad to help you.' She told me that the life road is hard that I must insist on forever. Never give up!"



Regina Peng: "Barbara Goode is seventy years old this year. She is full of energy. She is responsible to her job." "I really admire her. I hope I can be a person like her when I am seventy years old. I hope I can be full of intelligence and sense of humor."



Sandra Dong: "When Mrs. Heather told us that we would go to Beijing by plane. I was so excited because I have never taken an airplane before. I thought that taking a plane was wonderful. I could look at our beautiful country from the plane."



Jack Wang: "When the airplane took off from the ground, I felt very nervous and scared. I felt like I lost my soul at that time. My ears could not hear anything. I wanted to vomit. It was terrible. However, after the airplane kept balance, I felt very relaxed."



Selina Li: "I will never forget the Beijing Trip of 2007, especially those American friends." "Kay Sorvik is a beautiful, kind woman. I remembered her gold hair and sweet smile in my mind. There are many things that make me want to say 'Thank you, Kay!' Thank you for teaching me English, thank you for spending time to go to a bookshop with me, thank you for helping me use a fork and spoon, thank you for expressing the meaning of fish.... Many things

make me never forget you—Kay!"



Alice Zeng: "This short distance airplane trip was so wonderful. I told myself I would like to take it again if I have a chance."



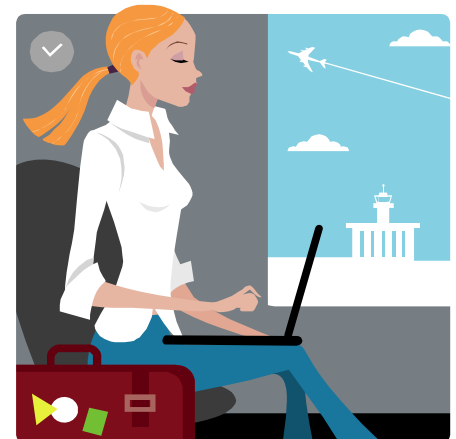
Cerise Zhu: "I like to look at the sky through the window on the airplane and read magazines. I saw many pictures and got some information about what we should do when the plane is in danger."



Samuel Ma: "I like traveling by plane to go anywhere because it can save my time, and it is also more comfortable than any other transportation."



Shirley Wang: "I'm thankful for Grace Bryer, she brought her happiness to me. She made me have a wonderful trip and she made a good impression on me."



What did you do during the past winter holiday? Did you study English? Did you hang out with your friends? Or did you do something special... Do you want to know what some of our OTC students did on their winter holiday? If the answer is "YES", please read the following articles. You will enjoy reading them. Maybe the same thing happened on your holiday, too. ☺

Have a Grateful Heart

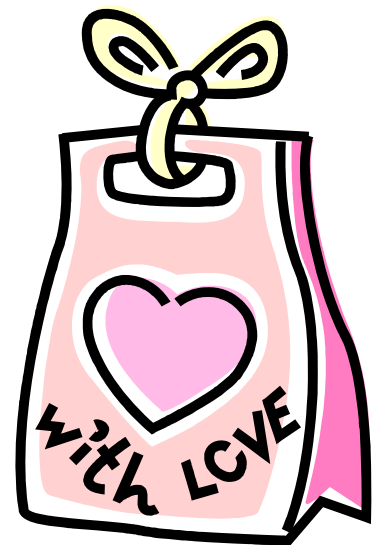
Abigail Mai



I had a bad thought again, I thought that I wanted to give up studying at Oasis Training Center. "There are just two days before school starts," I said quietly and disappointedly, "I will return to school, where will my tuition money come from, Mum! Could I have your help to finish my last term?" "How much will it be? We will give it to you." My father said

definitely. "Really?" I was shocked by his words. I could not believe my ears. Then I made sure it was true. I was very grateful for my parents who were supported me this time. They were trying their best to find money for me. Their actions made me cry because they changed their attitude about my studies, and were supporting my future. They are kind parents, from my heart I want to say: "I love you, my

dear parents, I will study hard as a reward for your kindness and tolerance."



My Brother's Wedding

Mary Zhao

I think this is the happiest week of the holiday. I felt very happy and excited because my family celebrated my brother's long-awaited wedding. Several days before the wedding, all my family, relatives and neighbors were busying

with the party. They prepared a lot of delicious food. The day before the wedding I decorated the new house for my brother and sister-in-law. The house was fill with flowers and balloons, it looked very beautiful and special. All the preparations

made the wedding more special and unique. I think it is the happiest and most unforgettable day for my family.



An Unhappy Day

Sabrina Song

I quarreled with my mum. I told her I was going outside Ping Liang after I graduated from OTC. But I got blame from her. She didn't want me to go outside. She said: "You'd better stay in Ping Liang after graduation, because it is no good

for you to go outside." I really felt bad when she said that to me. I want my own life. Now, I'm nearly twenty years old. I can make decision for myself. It's my dream to go out and see the colorful world. I really want to tell my mum: "Mum,

please understand me. You can not be with me forever."

What I learned...

Angel Zhang

I am so unlucky today. I don't feel good because I caught a bad cold, and Ms. Susan criticized me because one of my students' mother told Ms. Susan that I hit her child. I admit that sometimes my teaching style does not fit their age, but I did not hit anyone. I don't know why my student told his mother that I hit him. Maybe he just does not want to come here and study. I don't hate him because he is just a child. He didn't know that his words would cause me to be criticized by my boss.

From this, I realized that nothing is easy. I am not perfect, but I should make myself better and better. I really want to quit this job, and my friends tried to persuade me to quit it because they said that I have worked so much, but I just earn a little. I know if I quit it, it doesn't matter to me, but my students will be taught by a new teacher. It's not good for them to change teachers a lot. Ms. Barbara told us that "Bloom at the place where you planted". I will keep going, and make myself better. I should be dependable and

loyal. "Have a good start, have a good end". I must finish it because I chose it. I think that true success is to finish what you choose to do.



Crystal's Corner



some information from the TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) Conference.

By the way, April 1st is coming soon. Have you already made some plans for April Fool's Day? It will be a pity for us because it is on Sunday. Anyway, you will have a good day on April Fool. Watch out! Do not be

This is the first issue of WE ! OTC for 2007. Two new teachers have joined us this year, and Ms. Barbara will be back from states with Mr. Dennis and Ms. Heather, too. Isn't it exciting? We haven't seen Ms. Barbara for about two months. I think Mr. Dennis and Ms. Heather will bring

cheated by your friends! ☺

Schedule for April

April 1st April Fool's Day

April 27th Last day of third quarter

April 28th Drama

May 1st to May 6th May Holiday

NOTE: All students are required to attend the play.

The Wiebes

By Crystal Ge



At the start of this semester, OTC got two new teachers—Christopher Eric Wiebe and Diane Rebeca Wiebe. They have the most family members among all the OTC teachers because they have two lovely kids—Jonah and Eliza—with them.

They never thought that they were going to be teachers before they came to China. They enjoy teaching, even though they were nervous the first time they taught. They had a lot of fun while they were teaching the students. And this made them want to spend time with the students and get to know them.

Since they live in China, they feel that it is important to learn Chinese. They are going to learn Chinese by using a computer program. In addition, they will teach their kids. They would like to practice their Chinese with people around the city while they are exploring Ping Liang. Chris went to Da Lian six year ago. And he spent two month there. While he was in Da Lian he learned some simple Chinese. But now he will start to learn Chinese from the beginning.



They want their kids to play with their neighbor's kids so that they can have partners to play with and learn some simple Chinese from them. In order to let Jonah attend school here, they are going to teach him some pre-school things. It will be a wonderful experience for him.

When the family goes out, Jonah doesn't like to eat anything. But

he tried rice once, and he likes it. This made his mother very happy because finally he eat something that he likes. Jonah likes to eat rice with salt. Is that special?

Favorite Chinese food:

Fried dumplings, sweet sour chicken, fried green beans, tomato with eggs

Chris & Diane think that all the OTC students are talented students that work hard. And remember the character traits that you have learned, and you will be successful.



Sometimes we are not serious. ☺



Jonah likes to play with his cars.

Eliza likes to play with her baby dolls.