

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

Written by Brandon Johnson, our Ambassadorial Scholar.

(continued from last week)

Friday,

July 18, 2008, 13:04

Ankang, the "Classic" Chinese City

Ankang, China

From what I've been told, Ankang is your typical "small" Chinese city.

With an inner-city population of several hundred thousand (over three million if

you count the outskirts), the pervasive Chinese commercial development is unmistakable. But a large number of the citizens are still poor merchangts and peasants. This land provides a mystical mixture of industrial evolution and destitute abandonment, and here I will attempt to give you a taste...

A typical day in Ankang...

I'm still in tourist-gawking mode. The phrase "the other side of the world" rings true literally and figuratively, as everything is so divergent from our culture. But to the Ankang natives, I am their mini tourist attraction. In a city where I'm one of seven foreigners - and the only

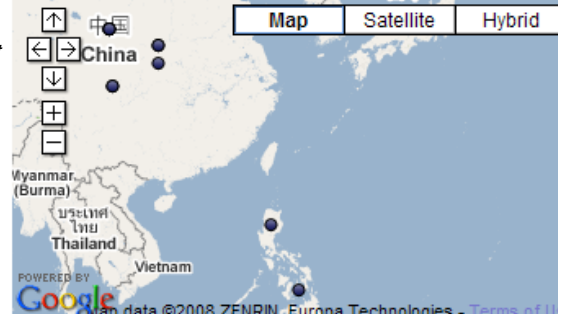
American - and where mothers don't scold their children for staring, I'm as watched as the president. Feet stop, eyeballs fixate and necks slowly crane to watch the foreigner saunter

by. I've at least begun to appreciate what it's like to be a minority...



Walking the city is like maneuvering through a giant obstacle course. Traffic can be described only as functional chaos. A hodgepodge of buses, taxis, mopeds, bicycle carriages, police golf-carts, hand-drawn carts, pedestrians, and the occasional car. A place where signs, lights and road marking are mere suggestions; where there is no "stop," aside from a sporadic functioning traffic light; and where horns act like bicycle bells - excuse me, look out! Mopeds flood the streets, their horns mimicking the perpetual honking of the Looney Toons Road-Runner. And for pedestrians, hesitation is an indeterminate delay. Don't think; just go! Surrender the fear...enjoy the anarchy.

"Sidewalks" in Ankang act less as a pedestrian path and more like a movable trading market. Keymakers and shoemakers, welders and carpenters, and food



galore! Fruit and vegetable vendores at every corner, waiting with their wooden, two-wheel, hand-drawn carts that haul their stores to and from home every day. Pears and peaches with the texture of an apple, mini shells with a Jell-O-like substance, grapes and watermelon; roots, stalks, cucumbers, onions, lettuce and tomatoes... and whatever else is in season. Snack vendors spill out of restaurants, selling meat skewers grilled over flames (\$0.14), "Chinese hamburgers" (chopped fried meat served in a thin pita-like roll) (\$0.57), and rolls of freshly-made bread, known as the "peasant's breakfast" (\$0.03).



(continued next week)

REGISTER RECEIPTS

As you shop this holiday season, don't forget to turn in your ACME Register Receipts to Jack Sproul. Thanks for all your support!



Reception Committee		Program	
Date	Chairperson	Greeter	Speaker/Subject
November 13	Bob Edmondson	Martin Sarkees, Jr.	Penncrest High School Interact - Mike Lobiondo
November 20	John Schlesinger	Sally Holub	Rotary International — Flu Shots —
November 27	— Thanksgiving — No Meeting		
December 4	Fran Smith	Jeff Smith	Seasonal Message - Rabbi Kaplan
December 11	William Tyson	Jim Thomas	Belschnikel

The Rotary Club of Media #5492
PO Box 522, Media, PA 19063

CALENDAR OF EVENT

Rotary Board Meetings – Second Tuesday of every month.

The meetings will be held at 12 p.m. at the Towne House.

This month's board meeting will be held on November 18 due to the Veterans Day Parade.

Media Rotary Foundation Meetings – December 18, March 26, May 28, & June 25

The meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. at the Towne House.

Schedule of Events for Rotary District 7450

Information can be obtained at www.rotary7450.org.

A copy of the Rotary Foundation of Media by-laws, latest Treasurer's report and guidelines for requesting funds are available at <http://www.mediarotary.org/foundation>. A comprehensive list of recipients is also available for your perusal.

Sunshine Committee

Let Lynne Green know about anyone who is ill, has passed away, has gotten married, has had a new baby, etc. Please contact her via email at pgs8@comcast.net.

MEMBERSHIP DATES

Our club board recommends (1) that the 3rd Thursday of each month be Membership Day (with a few minutes to talk about what it's like to be a Rotarian); (2) that the Rotary Information sessions for new members be held each month on the

Thursday following the board meeting (allowing for prospective new members names to be placed in *The Medium* with enough time for the 7-Day Notice); (3) that new member induction day be the 4th Thursday of each month.

Club Officers 2008-2009

President - Barbara Laurenzi

President Elect - Ken Delmar

Vice President - Carole McMahon

Secretary - Andy Hunt

Treasurer - Jack Sproul

Sergeant-at-Arms - Ted Pleibel, III

Past President - Nancy Geisel

Board Members

Ed Beadle - Jonathan Becker

Tom Gibson - Tom Gregory

Rosemarie Halt - Jack Hontz

Bryan Messick - Penelope Reed

John Schlesinger

Media Rotary Foundation

PO Box 2028, Media, PA 19063

President - Jackie Woolfall

Vice President - Tom Hibberd

Secretary - Lori Markusfeld

Treasurer - Bob Dimond

Board Members

Bill Davis - Walt Hill

Sally Holub - Bill Strine

Committee Chairs

Club Administration - Tom Gibson

Membership - Pat Kosinski

Public Relations - John Schlesinger

Service Projects - Bryan Messick

Rotary Foundation - Penelope Reed

Gundaker Foundation - Jonathan Becker

Media Foundation Liaison - Nancy Geisel

Program/Vocational - Ken Delmar

Rotary Information - Tony Cavaliere

Social/Sunshine - Lynne Green

Auction - Courtney Ballauer/Jackie Woolfall

Website: www.mediarotary.org

District 7450 * Joel Chesney - District Governor * www.rotary7450.org

Rotary Foundation Chair: Russ deFuria, Membership Chair: Bob Lankin,

Group Study Exchange Chair: Karen Straw-Hacker, Vocational Chair:

Charles Streiwieser, Lieutenant Governor: Chuck Killian, Assistant Governors: Tim

Birch, John Washington, **Mollie Shiflet-O'Brien**, Robert Latshaw,

Arthur Klein, Cynthia Lyman, Doreen Storey, Samantha Kranyak-Ramsey and Bonnie Korengel.

Rotary International * Don Kurn Lee - President * www.rotary.org

MINI MEDIUM

BY TOM GIBSON

If you didn't attend the meeting on October 30th, you missed some real drama. Penny Reed presented a Halloween program featuring the works of Edgar Allan Poe and starring herself and costumed members of her Hedgerow Theatre company. First, we enjoyed a scene from Poe's "Masque of the Red Death," complete with dire warnings, brightly dressed couples dancing around the room, and the entrance of a very ugly creature whose very appearance sent the dancers whirling to the floor. That ended Part I. However, thank goodness Penny didn't land on the floor. She continued whirling around the room - Penny never just walks, she always whirls.

For Part II, Penny gave an award-winning reading of Poe's famous poem, "The Raven." She even got her fellow Rotarians into the act by having them mysteriously repeat the poem's famous two-word line,

"Never more" throughout her performance. Every time Penny waved her arms in the air, the Rotary chorus loudly whispered, "Never more." The chorus did pretty well because whispering loudly isn't easy. One other person was on stage for "The Raven," namely our esteemed President Barbara Laurenzi. Barb was in a costume that consisted of a frilly black dress and a mysterious head piece. She looked like Cleopatra after a wild night with Anthony. Barb told me later that she thinks she was "supposed to be the Raven." I smiled and asked her when her next performance would be. She smiled and whispered, "Never more." Poe would have been pleased!

Tom agreed to write the Mini Medium periodically. Keep reading for more exciting updates from our meetings.

Our President, Barbara Laurenzi, has chosen Rhotoplast as our international project this year. To benefit Rhotoplast, we will host a reception and show at Hedrow Theatre. The goal of Rotoplast International is to eliminate the incidence of untreated cleft lips and palates in children worldwide by the year 2025. Over 10,000 children have been helped since 1996. We hope you can come support this great cause. Bring family and friends. This is a good way to introduce new members to the work of Rotary.

Save the Date!!! Wednesday, December 10, 2008

The Rotary Club of Media's Holiday Reception & Show at Hedrow Theatre

6:30 p.m. - Reception

7:30 p.m. - The Show: "A Christmas Carol"

ROTARY EXCHANGE STUDENT

Please welcome our club's Rotary exchange student for the 2008 - 2009 school year, Monica Bautista Sanchez, of Granada, Spain. Monica is 18 years old and enjoys basketball, skiing and reading. Her host family Dr. Betsy Race and Stuart Race and their 3 children live in Upper Providence. If your family would like to include Monica in an family activity or attending an event please call Rosemarie Halt at 610-892-0665 or the Race family directly at 610-565-7990.

DR. WALT HILL

Dr. Walt Hill would love to hear from fellow Rotarians. Call him at 610-544-7155. If you'd like to send him mail, he is at:

Presbyterian Village
404 Cheswick Place, Apt 171A
Rosemont, PA 19010

GREAT ROTARIAN?!

Know someone who would make a great Rotarian? Bring them to a meeting!

Please don't forget to sign in at every meeting!

Replacement Badges - \$10

Replacement Lapel Pins - \$5

Phones must be on vibrate - \$10 charge if they ring.

Rotarians are responsible for all information changes with Courtney Ballauer.

Thank you for your cooperation!



CLUB MEMBERS & CLASSIFICATIONS

The Medium
Editor: Courtney Ballauer
610-744-2899
cballauer@riddlehospital.org

- George A. Albany, III - Banking, Savings Bank
- Teresa Angarita - Construction Company
- Don Bak - Architect
- Courtney Ballauer - Community Health
- Edward J. Beadle - Dentist
- Lewis B. Beatty, Jr. - Law-Probate
- Jonathan Becker - Estate Attorney
- David L. Belanger - Library Administration
- Joseph S. Bodalski - Financial Consultant
- Mike Boettcher - Surf Shop-Retail Manufacturing
- Valarie Bradley - Real Estate Inspections
- Marcus Brettschneider - Packaging
- Martin Brian - Pharmacist
- Jeffry Cadorette - Property Management
- Anthony Cavaliere - Banking
- George Cristoforidis - Home Health Care Equipment
- Bruce Clark - Municipal Manager
- Jim Clyma - Real Estate-Commercial
- William K. Davis - Community Planner
- Kenneth Delmar - Plastics, Packaging
- Robert L. Dimond - Veterans Affairs

- Michele Edgcumbe - Non Profit Director
- Robert W. Edmondson -
- Al L. Elko - Accounting-CPA
- Virginia Falkenbach - Computer - Web Design
- Nancy A. Geisel - Real Estate - Sales
- Michael Gibbons - Music Producer
- Tom Gibson - Public Relations
- Ellen Gorby - Salon/Spa
- Lynne L. Green - Realtor Leasing
- Tom H. Gregory - Printing - Quick Copy
- William S. Gross - Retail Men's Clothing
- Karin Gustafson - Advertising/Promotion
- Rosemarie Halt - Pharmacist
- Stanley T. Hibberd - Casualty Insurance
- O. Warren Higgins - Law-Retired
- Walton B. Hill - Education-Technical College
- Sally Holub - Magazine
- John Hontz - Education-Music
- Andrew Hunt - Investment Representative
- Peter E. Irish - Automotive Sales/Leasing
- Eugene L. Kane - Medicine-Optometrist
- Alex E. Karkenny - Stock Broker
- Denise Kerr - School Superintendent
- Reverend Robert Kesel - Clergy-Presbyterian
- Joseph Kleschick - Ship Building
- Terrance A. Kline - Law
- Pat Kosinski - Non Profit Director
- Jim Larsen - In-Home Senior Care
- Barbara Laurenzi - Banking-Business Banking
- Nicholas Lippincott - Law-Litigation
- Peter A. Mardinly - Law-Tax
- Lori Markusfeld - Fundraising
- Carole McMahon - Home Healthcare
- Bryan Messick - Banking
- Dale Moppert - Bank-Retail
- Ted Pleibel, III - Sign Maker

- Evelyn Preising, MA - Non-Profit Director
 - Penelope Reed - Theater
 - Dennis Rehrig - Med-Chiropractor
 - Roger Ricker - Theater
 - J. Nelson Rigby - Funeral Director
 - Martin T. Sarkees, Jr. - Accountant
 - George S. Saulnier - Law
 - John J. Schlesinger - School Administrator
 - Mollie Shiflet - O'Brien - Law-Real Estate
 - Dennis Slostad - Architect-Commercial
 - Fran Smith - Insurance Consultant
 - Jeffrey A. Smith - Borough Manager
 - Warren D. Smith - Dental Laboratory
 - Larry V. Smoose - Clergy
 - Jack Sproul - Laundry-Coin Op
 - Robert L. Stahl - Decorator
 - Linda E. Stone - Commercial Banking
 - William B. Strine - Engineer-Consultant
 - James W. Thomas - Springfield Ford, Inc.
 - Jay A. Thomas - Automobile-Retail
 - Greg Torre - Alarm Service
 - William Tyson - Oil Refining
 - John D. Vairo - Higher Education Administration
 - Lawrence Weathers, III - Auto-Leasing, Sales, Service, Parts
 - Bob Wetzel - Higher Education-Development
 - Mark Whitehead - Education
 - Randolph B. Winton - Money Manager
 - Jackie L. Woolfall - Marketing & Public Relations
 - Andrea Youndt - Director-YMCA
- Honorary Members:
- Ted Hadley
 - Victor A. Menghetti, Sr - Veterinarian
 - David E. Pergrin
 - Walter Strine, Sr.

DONATIONS

TO THE VFW

Our active military has requested the following items:

- Coloring Books, Baby Wipes, Crayons, Cotton Balls, Small Safe Toys, Q-Tips, Silly String, Toiletry packets, Tooth Paste, Tooth Brush, Powdered Drinks, Sunglass Inserts, Training Pants, Toilet Tissue (1-ply), Donations, CHOCOLATE

CITY TEAM MINISTRIES

At CityTeam Ministries in Chester, PA they have just finished registering thousands of people in need of food this Thanksgiving season. In these tough economic times, they have seen more people coming to the doors than every before and their pantry is emptier than ever.

They have compiled an inventory of what they have in stock, and are very concerned about their ability to meet the needs of the desperate families. Please consider donating items from the following list to help. These donations need to be received by Saturday, November 15 to get into food boxes for deliver on November 22. You can drop off donations Monday –Friday 9 a. m. – 5 p.m. or on Saturday from 9 a.m. –12 p.m.

Most needed items: Canned soup, Gravy, Dessert Mix (Cakes, Brownies, etc.), Canned Potatoes, Beans, Stuffing, Canned Sweet Potatoes, Large Box of Mashed Potato Mix, Canned Vegetables, Cranberry Sauce.

Thank you - Every Little Bit Helps!

50/50 GIFTS

50/50 gifts for the next 70 weeks were supplied by the following businesses and Rotarians: Conductive Plastics Company, Contemporary Styles, D'Ignazio's Towne House, Franklin Mint Federal Credit Union, Kaos Surfboards, Pinocchio's, PNC Bank, Professional Duplicating, The Little Inn, Vinnie's Place, Wawa

The following Rotarians are responsible for the above gifts: Mike Boettcher, Jeff Cadorette, Ken Delmar, Tom Gregory, Terry Kline, Barb Laurenzi, Bryan Messick, Ted Pleibel, Greg Torre

Please thank them for making our weekly 50/50 more exciting!