

## EDITOR'S CORNER

### Cruising on Queen Elizabeth 2

Greetings... This is the *Year of the Monkey*. Confucius said, "The Monkey who climbs most trees is the Strongest!" I hope all the Fellows climb many trees of success and happiness in this witty, active, and fun-loving *Year of the Monkey*.

Speaking of fun, my wife decided that I work too hard, so she arranged a 12-day cruise for us on the Queen Elizabeth 2, right after the New Year. What a trip! The ship is still going around the world from New York to New York. We embarked the ship at Fort Lauderdale, FL and then passed through Cuba and Haiti to a charming little island called Curacao, which belongs to the Netherlands. After a day tour the ship sailed west and passed through the Panama Canal to Panama City. That was a truly memorable experience going through the locks from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean. I was a hero on the ship because I was teaching people the following palindrome — A MAN A PLAN A CANAL PANAMA. This phrase can be spelled both ways. For one day on the Panama Canal people thought I was really intelligent!

It was on to Acapulco, the place with the broken bamboos, where we watched cliff divers plunge into the rushing waves from 135 feet and hit the water at 50 mph. These people make good money but several went blind and deaf due to many years of such tremendous activities. The youngest diver is a 9-year-old girl. I hope she quits the job when she carries a baby later in life. After a stay at the tip of Baja, California at Cabo San Lucas the ship sailed to Los Angeles, thus ending one of the Fung's most memorable trips. It was as exciting as the CONCORDE trip we took from New York to London in 3 and a half hours, two years ago.

The Ship has so much history and is so elegant. I forgot to bring my tuxedo (I do not own one anyway) and was almost not allowed to eat the formal dinners at night. Every day there were four to five meals, Broadway-style shows, magic shows, movies, classical concerts, Casino games, swimming pool activities, etc. I had too much sun and got a real bad sunburn — well, so much for too much fun. The next cruise trip will be on the new Queen Mary 2 — which will certainly break my bank.

Now it's back to reality. Manhattan, Kansas is REALLY cold at this moment. The University is closed for the day, which allows me to work on this newsletter.

Several dedicated readers want more "people information" in the newsletter and we have some good ones in this issue. So, if there are interesting events, activities and details going on in your lives or someone else's lives that you would like to tell others, please send your information to me and I will try to fit them into the newsletter. After all, this is YOUR newsletter.

Jennifer MacAulay is doing a great job working with me on this project.

During the October 2003 IFT Committee Meetings in Chicago, members of the Fellows Activities Committee somehow appointed D.Y.C. Fung as the "Continuing Editor of the IFT Fellows Newsletter Editor with no sabbatical leave". I accepted the challenge until further notice!

DANIEL Y. C. FUNG

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