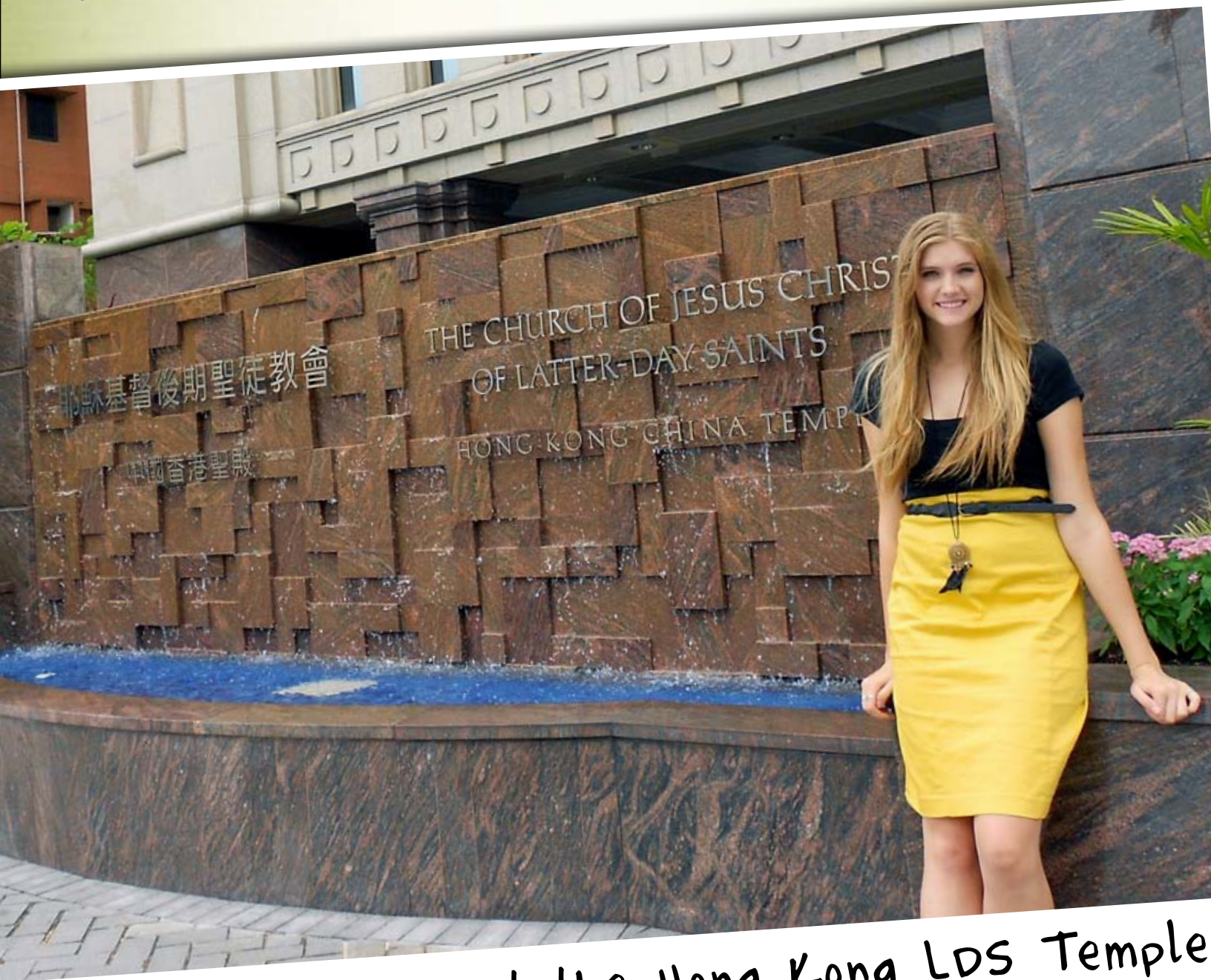




THE
FRIED NOODLE
[CHINA HORIZONS NEWSLETTER]

ISSUE
15



Taren Peterson at the Hong Kong LDS Temple



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adapting to an unpredictable country

BLAKE OAKLEY



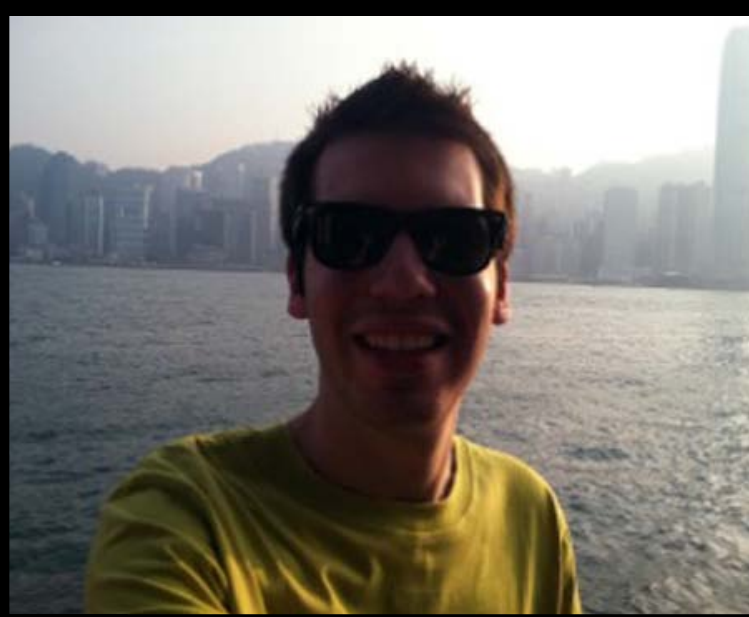
The number one struggle that I have in China concerns being aware of “The Plan.” In Beijing we were given a multi-page tour guide which detailed what “The Plan” was for that day down to the hour. I am an organizational freak. I need to have everything planned and decided in order to be able to function. Arriving in Wenling, I found out what China was really like. There seems to be no “Plan” here. Cars drive wherever they can fit; buildings seem to be in a constant state of construction; and lesson plans change on a near-daily basis. Coming from the guy who made a

travel itinerary for his three day trip to Shanghai, China is a mess. The struggle that I face here is learning to go with the flow of things. No

matter how much I fret, the bus driver will still drive like a maniac; no matter how much I organize my day, I’ll still be interrupted with a call saying I have 5 minutes to be downstairs and

ready to attend a wedding; no matter how I “Plan,” China doesn’t. And I can dig that.

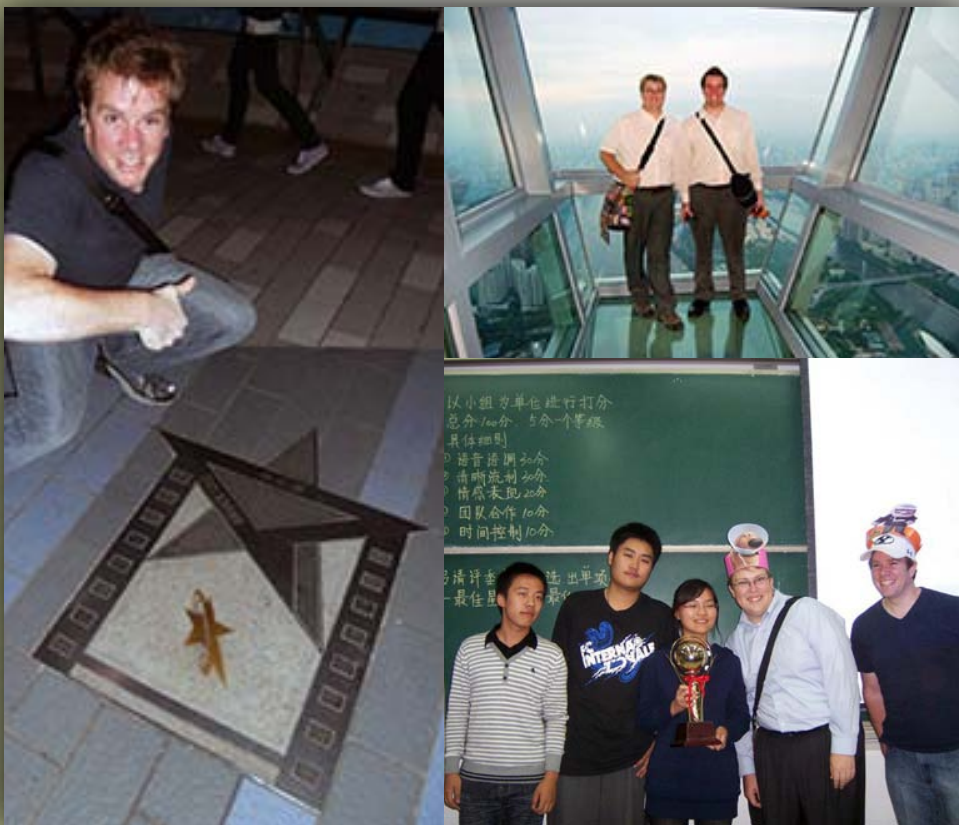




Guangzhou and Hong Kong

Kevin Earl and I traveled to Guangzhou and Hong Kong. We learned quickly that National Week really is China's biggest travel time. However, we had a great time with—and in spite of—the crowds. Guangzhou is a quintessential modern Chinese city: a mix of old and new. The Canton Tower, which stands 600 meters high, gave us a great view of it all. In Hong Kong, we stepped out of mainland China into a booming world financial center. Its best views can be seen from Victoria Peak at night. In addition, we visited one of the world's largest Buddha statues and walked among the stars at the waterfront where Hong Kong cinema celebrities were honored. The best part was going to the LDS Temple. It was a rare and spiritually strengthening opportunity. I cannot wait to visit Southern China again.

-Aaron Stevens



Over my National Day vacation, I went to the top of the third tallest free-standing structure in the world – the Canton Tower – in Guangzhou, felt itty-bitty at the feet of one of the five biggest Buddha statues in China on Lantau Island, and overlooked the magnificent spectacle of Victoria Harbor after riding the renowned Peak Tram above the electric city of Hong Kong—none of which matched the Hong Kong Temple.

-Kevin Earl





Xi'an and a Wedding

It started with a traditional Chinese wedding!

Very different and fun to attend, especially since I got to perform and sing for them! Then

I spent the rest of the week with Tina, Sara, Mekena, Morgan, Jordan, Marie and Kara! We

all played around in Zhenjiang for a couple days singing Karaoke, running around the mall, and getting pet fish. Then four of us went to

the Strawberry Music Festival! It was a super fun Chinese concert! After that we headed off

to Xian! We took a quick 17-hour train ride by ourselves and arrived in Xian at 5 in the

morning! We wandered around attempting

to find our hotel for an hour. No taxis would take us there and none of the other hotels

knew where it was! We finally found it with

the help of several international hotels, only to discover that our room wasn't available. So we

all crashed in the lobby. After a couple hours of sleeping on the couches and floor, we moved

into our rooms and took another nap. We then left for the Tang Paradise! That's right, paradise.

It's like Disneyland plus China only better! It was an amazingly beautiful place! We rode camels,

burned incense, saw a parade (and eventually became the parade because of mobs of people

taking our pictures), watched a Chinese dragon performance, saw a magnificent light and

water show, and walked around drinking in the beauty of the pagodas, statues, and culture!

The next day, we took a tour to the Terracotta

Warriors, Banpo Museum, and the replica of

the Qin Emperor tomb! The Terracotta Warriors are amazing! We saw the guy who discovered

them too! Friday through Monday we went to the Bell Tower, Drum Tower, Big Wild Goose

Pagoda, and Small Wild Goose Pagoda. Sara,

Tina, Mekena, and I even rode tandem bikes on the city wall!!!! It was the best trip ever!!!

-Julia Anderson



I went to Xi'an with Marie, Sara, Tina, Julia, Kara, Morgan, and Jordan. We went to all the historical sites like the Terra-cotta Warriors and went shopping at all the cool little street markets. My most memorable moment was when Tina, Julia, Sara and I rode tandem bikes on the city wall at night time. It was so cool to see the old buildings all lit up and the Chinese lanterns lighting the whole wall and to hear beautiful Chinese music while we rode around. It felt like something you would only see in movies!

-Mekena Morgan





Nanjing and a Concert

During National holiday week, I went to the Strawberry Music Festival with Paul, Leo, Jason and some Chinese friends, Olivia and Una. We rode a bus for 40 minutes to an island where the music festival was being held. Although it was cold and it had rained all day—all of our shoes got so muddy from being outside all night—the festival was a blast. There was some great techno and rock music being played. Everyone was dancing like crazy; it was quite funny to watch. I didn't travel anywhere else over the holiday but I got to explore some cool parks here in Zhenjiang and met some of the local people who sing and do dancing in the parks. I had a fun/relaxing week off!

-Sara Riggs



Aubrey and I went to the Zhenjiang Strawberry Music Festival on Monday October 3rd. We got on a bus and drove for what seemed like forever to a little island in the Yangtze River. We stayed on the island and jammed out to Chinese pop music with a gazillion other people for about five hours. We even got close to the front of a very, very popular band and got in the MIDDLE of a moshpit/dance circle of death. Our shoes were filthy with mud when we got back, but it was definitely worth it.

Aubrey, Tosh, and I went to the zoo in Nanjing with a friend from the ward. Aubrey and I paid five yuan and fed a giraffe with about twenty other people half our size and age.

-Abigail LeMmon





CHINESE CORNER

TIME AND DATE

A Little Numbers Reminder

1 = 一 (Yī)	2 = 二 (Èr)	3 = 三 (Sān)	4 = 四 (Sì)	5 = 五 (Wǔ)
6 = 六 (Liù)	7 = 七 (Qī)	8 = 八 (Bā)	9 = 九 (Jiǔ)	10 = 十 (Shí)

Phrases: Time and Dates

Q: 现在几点? (xiàn zài jǐ diǎn?)
What time is it?

A: (Hour) 点 (Minute) 分
EX: 三点五十分 (3:50)

Q: 今天是几月几号? (jīntiān shì jǐ yuè jǐ hào)
What is the date?

A: (Month) 月 (Day) 号
EX: 二十月一号
(October 1st)

Useful Words to know:

- 年 (nián) - year
- 月 (yuè) - month
- 日/号 (rì/hào) - day
- 昨天 (zuótiān) - yesterday
- 今天 (jīntiān) - today
- 明天 (míngtiān) - tomorrow
- 早安 (zǎo ān) - morning
- 下午 (xià wǔ) - afternoon
- 晚(wán) - evening





Shanghai

By far one of my favorite trips while in China has been to Shanghai!! Lisa and I traveled to Shanghai for church and the minute we made it, I fell in love! Shanghai is a contemporary, upbeat, fast-paced city, like any other city you would see in America. The great thing about Shanghai is there is so much western food available, and it was definitely a special treat. While in Shanghai one of the things we set out to find was an H&M store. We were dying to get our hands on their fabulous clothes! But as we strolled through the streets and peeked into many shops, we couldn't find the store. We would unexpectedly view ads or see people holding H&M bags but the actual store was nowhere to be found. Since Shanghai is a "hot pot" of nationalities, we set out to ask some English-speaking foreigners if they had seen or knew where H&M was. We came upon some Europeans and although they didn't know where the store was they managed to be an essential tool in helping us find it! Off we went in search of H&M with the minimal directions we had been given. Nothing could stop us, we were on a mission! After hours of searching, we finally found it!! Let's just say it was one of my happiest moments in China.

-Gracie Velasquez

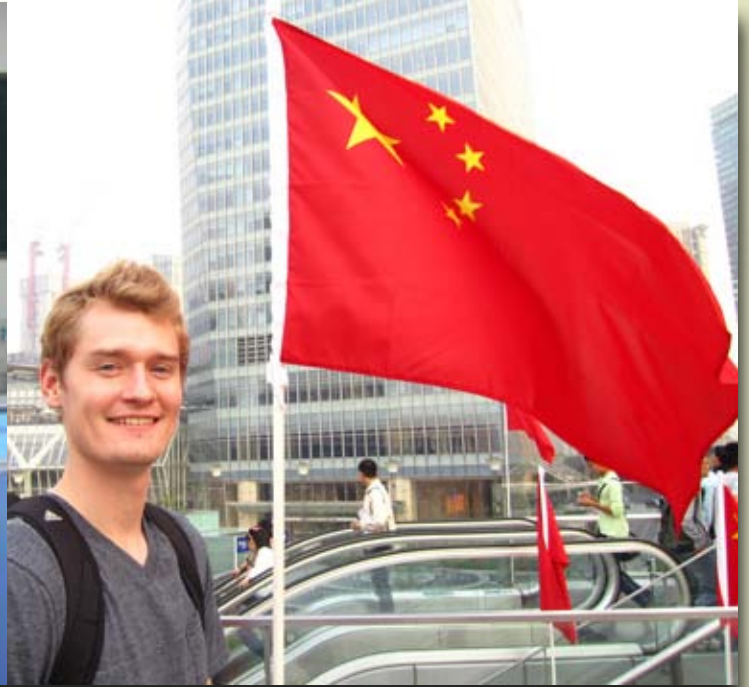


For China's National Week, My Boss Lady, or "Aunt" as she has me call her, took me to explore Shanghai with her, her husband and son. My boss and her husband know no English, so she brought her son to translate for us. We went everywhere! She took me to the Pearl Tower, The Aquarium, The Bund, The Shanghai Museum, The Temple of the Gods, The Hong Kong Plaza, Nanjing Road, The "Old Town," and so much more! We ate at these crazy restaurants, and I ate everything from snails to duck brains and all sorts of crazy fish (the WHOLE fish). Chinese food is definitely exotic to say the least! It was fun to stay with them at the hotel, and see how the natives explore and really become a part of their world. I had the best time, and my favorite part would have to be introducing them to the "combo pizza" at Pizza Hut one night. My "Aunt" and her husband had never eaten there, so it was fun to show them a little piece of America.

-Kellie Orton



Shanghai continued



Lance and I went to Shanghai over the holiday. We actually scheduled it just right where we were able to meet up with Austin and Paige Slade for a day, so that was way fun. Lance and I were there for 5 days so we got to see a lot of things, including taking a river cruise around the Bund, going to the top of The World Financial Center, visiting several museums, walking through the Ocean Aquarium and the Yuyuan Gardens and of course lots of eating and shopping. Is it lame that one of my most memorable moments in Shanghai was at Pizza Hut? It doesn't matter that our single pizza cost more than we usually spend on food in one week—the cheese was heavenly and the Halloween costumes the staff were wearing were just amazing.

-Keri Stevens



