

### *Day 3 of our China Adventure 2012 09 01*

We have breakfast in the hotel in Shanghai, the Crowne Plaza, bus to the airport and fly to Beijing. We experienced flight delays which caused us to depart from our planned schedule for day 3, Saturday, Sep. 01<sup>st</sup>. I believe our luggage was delayed AND many of us experienced “wet” clothes as our luggage was exposed to the heavy rain.



Luggage became the operative word! Remember; some of us had our luggage delayed at arrival at the Shanghai airport, receiving it just prior to our departure to Beijing. We were to have visited Tiananmen Square immediately following our arrival but time did not permit. \* We did however enjoy our Peking Duck Dinner

followed by the “Legend of King Fu”. This was a first class show but pix were not allowed. Stayed in the Capital Hotel in Beijing. To your right is our standard, i.e. constant table setting outside of our hotel. 10 to a round table with the lazysusan . The round table concept was great for conversation while the lazysusan became 2<sup>nd</sup> nature to us. In Chinese fashion, we were served a multitude of varying dishes, all placed on the lazysusan and circulated. Normally the centre section was full, and seldom were we able to consume the entire dish before another appeared. Frequently, Chen explained the dishes and assisted where necessary.



\* I do not have the details > but I am reasonably confident we visited another OUTLET on Sat. Day 3. I am sure we did our bit to help the local economy!! **I GOT IT!** We visited the Jade Outlet and indeed it was quite impressive.



A word about Beijing may be appropriate. It is the capital of China; its roads are governed by chaos and precision in equal measure and although Chen prepared us for gridlock; however we did not experience any undue delays. Bicycles, motor scooters, cars and tour buses provide a fascinating driving experience, each aggressively competing for their share of the road > Shanghai repeated!

**Culture Is: Attitudes, Values, and Beliefs.** The local guides, often in response to questions from us, revealed a part of the culture of the People's Republic of China. One reoccurring item was the matter of the State limiting the number of children a couple can bring forward AND still stay within the law. When one reflects on the population, now in excess of one billion, and given how it would grow exponentially if not checked in some way, you begin to appreciate the dilemma the State finds itself.

Another cultural aspect I noted. In the OUTLETS we visited, once you paid close, or not so close, attention to an item, a salesperson hung on you and would not go away. I told one such person I found his behaviour offensive. He informed me it was a part of their culture. Not sure if it was, OR was it store policy???

OK > enough already!



### Tomorrow; off to the Great Wall.

Some texts refer to the Great Wall as a Spectacular Failure. It was built to protect China from northern invaders. We won't "go there" at this time; however; one thing The Great Wall does currently is to bring tourists, by the millions to China!!



These young "whippersnappers" were the only two to make it to the "Top" *as far as I know!!* If you made it, please let me know.

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