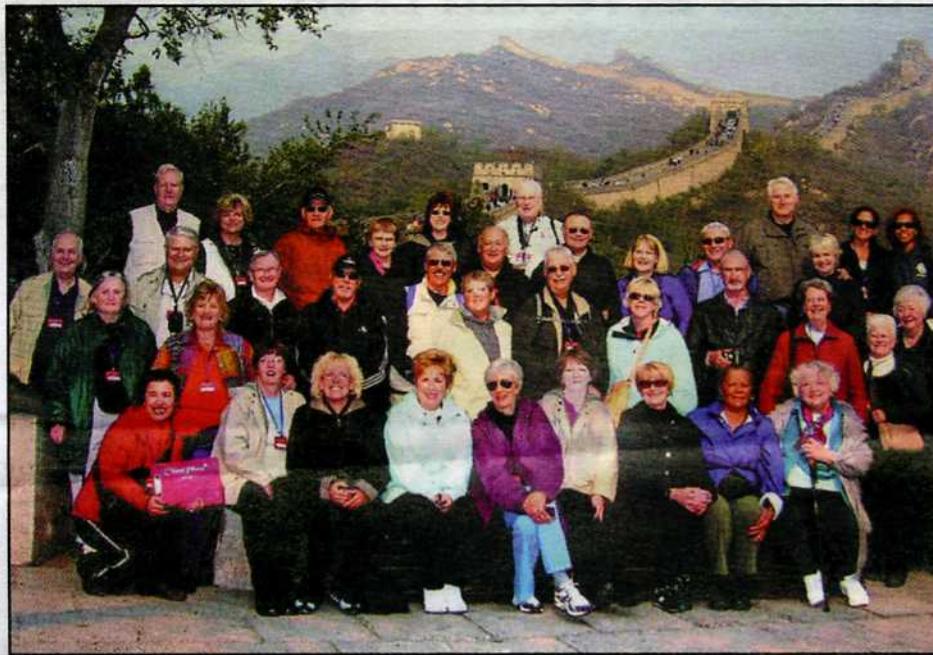


Road Runners experience a first class adventure in China



The Road Runners in China

Jim Goodnow, Vice President and Director of Travel, Robson Ranch Road Runners

A group of 28 members of Robson Ranch Road Runners along with nine of their family members and friends have returned safely home from an exciting 18-day tour of China arranged by Chris and Ping Lee of China Plus Tours based in Irving, Texas. The overall quality of our accommodations, shopping venues and sightseeing experiences were super! We enjoyed bountiful western style buffet breakfasts each day as well as many Chinese style lunches and dinners that included multiple course selections placed on lazy susans on each table. Prior to our departure on October 5, many of the participants prepared themselves for the trip by attending briefing sessions at the clubhouse on Chinese history, culture, language presented by Robson residents Jim Goodnow and Kunyu Bu Zeilinski.

We really enjoyed having Ping Lee as our national tour guide throughout the trip. She and several local guides kept us fully informed about the historical and cultural backgrounds of all the places we visited, expedited our airport check in processes, hotel room assignments and baggage handling and much more. Ping also shared candid observations about her personal experience living in China before she and her family immigrated to the United States. Moreover, she and the local guides assisted

group members with negotiating "good deals" while shopping for unique Chinese products including cloisonné, pearls, jade, paintings, silk, embroidery, rugs, and various handicrafts. Most of all she became a delightful friend and companion to all of us.

Overall, our tour was very comprehensive. From the historical locales in Beijing (Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, and the Great Wall) and Xian (the Terra Cotta Army) as well as urban splendors of Chongqing, Shanghai and Hong Kong to the gardens and canals of Suzhou, the impressive Three Gorges of the Yangtze and the karsts of the Guilin region, we experienced it all during informative bus rides and numerous boat trips. On a few evenings we enjoyed terrific entertainment such as the wonderful Tang Dynasty Show in Xian, the colorful performances put on by the crew of the Victoria Anna during our three night Yangtze River cruise and the thrilling acrobats in Shanghai. In sum, China Plus gave us an experience of a lifetime filled with unforgettable memories of the sleeping giant of a country that is rapidly awakening to its place as a dominant force in the global economy of the twenty-first century. ●