



*Improving Lives. Improving Texas.*

# **Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership (TALL) China International Travel Seminar *April 26 – May 8, 2008***

## **Itinerary Draft**

### **DRESS CODE: Business Casual**

Visits and meetings are subject to change, the dress code will change accordingly with the schedule. Please be sure and check with Dr. Jim each day regarding dress.

### **Presiding/Scribing: Rich Zarria & Berry Summerour**

#### **Sat. Apr 26 DFW/Overnight Flight to Beijing (Meals in flight)**

Depart at 10:50 am from DFW to Incheon on KE #32.

*Overnight flight*

#### **Sun. Apr 27 Arrive Beijing (Welcome Reception)**

Cross international dateline.

Arrive Incheon at 3:15 pm Depart Incheon at 7:00 pm on KE #853. Arrive Beijing at 8:05 pm.

After clearing customs and passport control, meet your English speaking escort/guide Mr. Bruce Lee, and transfer to hotel with a brief introduction/orientation tour along the way.



**Beijing** is located in northern China. The city covers an area more than 16,800 square kilometers (6,487 square miles) and has a population of 13.8 million people.

As the capital of the People's Republic of China, Beijing is one of the world's truly imposing cities, with a 3,000-year history, it is the nation's political, economic, cultural and educational center as well as being the China's most important center for international trade and communications. It has been the heart and soul of politics and society throughout its long history and consequently there is an unparalleled wealth of discovery to delight and intrigue travelers as they explore Beijing's ancient past and enjoy its exciting modern development.



### **Presiding/Scribing: Charles Vincent & Geoff Haney**

Clear customs & passport control, meet your English speaking guide and transfer to your hotel. If time permits, a brief evening panoramic view of Tiananmen Square...the largest square in the world. The group will also receive a formal tour on Tuesday morning.

**Tiananmen Square** in the center of Beijing, is the world's largest city square. Thousands of people come to the Square every day. Tiananmen Gate on the northern edge of the square used to be the front gate of the Ming and Qing Imperial Palace. The rostrum atop the gate, where national leaders review mass rallies or gala celebrations on important occasions, is open to tourists. The Monument to the People's Heroes stands in the center of the square. Behind Zhengyang Gate to the south sprawls Mao Zedong Memorial Hall; to the east is the complex which houses the Museum of Chinese Revolution and the Museum of Chinese History. The Great Hall of the People is on the west side.



This evening enjoy a welcome reception with hors d'oeuvres/snacks.  
*Overnight Beijing*

### **Presiding/Scribing: J.J. Barto & Charley Triplett**

**Mon. Apr 28** **Beijing** **(B/L/D)**

Early transfer to the U.S. Embassy. After proceeding through security group members will participate in a 9:00 am Briefing at the U.S. Embassy with representatives of the USDA Foreign Agriculture Service and APHIS. Senior Attache Mr. Eric Trachtenberg, Dr. Theresa Boyle and/or other staff and speakers from the U.S. Embassy Economic, Political and Commercial sections will address the group and respond to various topics of interest to the group.

### **Presiding/Scribing: Lynn Angell & Davon Cook**

Later this morning meet with Mr. Lance Wang of US based company Monsanto for a briefing on their China operations. The group will hear about the unique challenges and opportunities that Monsanto has experienced in China.

Lunch to follow.

### **Presiding/Scribing: Cory Bruce & Shannon Snearly**

At 2:30 pm continue with a seminar/briefing sponsored by the China Rural Technology Development Center (CRTDC) of the Ministry of Science and Technology. The seminar would include participation by rural extension and agricultural sector representatives from throughout China and would offer the opportunity to discuss topics and issues from a Chinese point of view. This evening enjoy a “Peking Duck” dinner. After dinner enjoy a performance of Chinese acrobats.  
*Overnight Beijing*

**Presiding/Scribing: Jeff Conner & Albert Chapa**

**Tue. Apr 29 Beijing/Xian (B/L/D)**

This morning transfer to Tiananmen Square and receive a guided tour of the square and also the impressive Imperial Palace.

**Presiding/Scribing: Clint Cryer & Duell Glass**

This afternoon travel outside of Beijing to Hormel China (*not confirmed*) to meet with representatives of this US based company in the private sector, for briefings and facility tours. Later this afternoon travel to The Great Wall, which stretches for 3,333 miles. After the seminar transfer to the airport and depart at 8:35 pm on CA #1205 to Xian.

*Xi'an was called Chang'an in ancient times. Xi'an records the great changes of the Chinese nation just like a living history book. During Xian's 3,100 year development, 13 dynasties such as Zhou, Qin, Han and Tang placed their capitals here. So far, Xian enjoys equal fame with Athens, Cairo, and Rome as one of the four major capitals of ancient civilization. The cultural and historical significance of the area, as well as the abundant relics and sites, help Xian enjoy the laudatory title of "Natural History Museum".*

Arrive at 10:30 pm and transfer to your hotel  
*Overnight Xian*

**Presiding/Scribing: Chad Elkins & Marc Shepard**

**Wed. Apr 30 Xian (B/L/D)**

Today will be a full day of activities as coordinated and sponsored by the China Rural Technology Development Center (CRTDC) of the Ministry of Science and Technology. Travel outside of the city to Yangling, the one and only National High Tech Agricultural Demonstration Zone. Also visit the Northwest Agricultural and Forestry University. The university is also the site of the Agricultural Museum of China.

**Presiding/Scribing: Eva Perry & Terry Hlavinka**

When you return to Xian you will have an opportunity to visit the city's Ancient Wall. This evening enjoy a unique and traditional dumpling dinner.



***Jiaozi (Chinese Dumpling) is of different fillings. It is essential***

during holidays in Northern China and one of the most widely loved foods in China. Since the shape of Chinese dumplings is similar to ancient Chinese gold or silver ingots, they symbolize wealth. It is a significant part of the Chinese culture and tradition.

*Overnight Xian*

**Presiding/Scribing: Beverly Moseley & Richie Moss**

**Thu. May 1 Xian-Chengdu (B/L/D)**

Today, which is the start of a 3 day national holiday, you will travel outside the city to see the “Terra Cotta Warriors” archeological dig site, the most significant archeological excavations of the 20th century, the army of terra-cotta warriors and the bronze chariots entombed in vast underground vaults at emperor Qin's tomb.



**Presiding/Scribing: Clayton Henry & Ed Erwin**

By late morning continue to a nearby rural township/village and meet with some residents and community leaders within the village. Have lunch with a few of the farmers and villagers followed by an opportunity to see their farming community and their related operations. This visit is also an opportunity to see examples of local/rural schools, health care/clinic, rural government, etc.

By late afternoon transfer to the airport and depart at 5:20 pm on CZ #6255 to Chengdu. Arrive at 6:30 pm and transfer to your hotel.

**Chengdu** abounds in natural resources and has a mild climate. With an annual rainfall volume of 997.6 mm, it occupies an area of 12,389.6 square kilometers, and now has over 3 million inhabitants in the city proper, and over 10 million in greater Chengdu.

Chengdu has many places of interest, and is famous worldwide for its traditional arts and crafts, ethnic folklore, and beautiful landscapes. Chengdu enjoys an advantageous geographical location. It has easy access to the Three Gorges on the Changjiang (Yangtze) River.



*Overnight Chengdu*

**Presiding/Scribing: Trae' Ottmers & Thomas Northcutt**

**Fri. May 2 Chengdu/Chongqing (B/L/D)**

Today you will start with a visit the “Panda Center”.  
***Giant Panda Breeding and Research Center***

The giant pandas are not only a Chinese national treasure but also beloved by people the world over. They are found only in Sichuan, Shaanxi and Gansu provinces. In total there are fewer than 1000, of which 80% are distributed within the Sichuan province. The Giant Panda Breeding Research Base is located on the mountain of Futoushan in the northern suburbs of the city, 10km away from the town center. The Giant Panda Museum is a unique museum set up for Giant Panda's in the world, it has been created and imitates the pandas' natural habitat in order that they might have a the best possible environment for rearing and breeding.



**Presiding/Scribing: Rich Zarría & Berry Summerour**

Continue with Chengdu area farm and technical visits as available during this holiday period. Sichuan Basin agriculture includes vegetables, rice, fruits, mandarin oranges, grains sorghum etc...made possible due to their irrigation system. Options will include a visit to a rural township/village for discussions with various community officials.

By late afternoon, transfer to the airport and depart at 8:00 pm on MU #8623 to Chongqing which is the departure point for the Yangtze River cruises. Arrive at 8:45 pm and transfer to the pier to board No.6 President Cruise and begin your Yangtze journey.

*Overnight Chongqing*

**The Yangtze River** is the longest river in China and the third longest river in the world. It starts at the southern foothills of the snow-covered Geladandong Peak of the Tanggula Mountains in southwestern Qinghai Province. The Yangtze flows past 2 autonomous regions and 6 provinces including Qinghai, Tibet, Sichuan, Yunnan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Anhui, Jiangsu, and Shanghai City, where it runs into the East China Sea. The Yangtze River reaches were once of the cradles of the Chinese civilization. Places along both sides of the river are homes to hundreds and thousands of relics and ancient architectures such as mansions, terraces and platforms, pavilions, towers, temples, gardens, stone carvings and forests of steles, which all serve as proofs of the intelligence and wisdom of the ancient Chinese people.



**Presiding/Scribing: Charles Vincent & Geoff Haney**

**Sat. May 3 Along Yangtze River via Chongqing/Fengdu/Badong**

This morning depart Chongqing and travel along the Yangtze River by bus and/or boat via the Ghost City of Fengdu and on to Badong.

Receive historical and cultural narrative of the river provided along the way.

Mid afternoon

**Presiding/Scribing: J.J. Barto & Charley Triplett**

Also an option to receive a briefing on the 3 Gorges Dam and its effect on the environment and culture along the Yangtze River.

*Overnight Yangtze River Cruise Ship*

**Presiding/Scribing: Cory Bruce & Shannon Sneary**

**Sun. May 4 Along Yangtze River via Badong/Yichang (B/L/D)**

Continue along the Yangtze River by bus and/or boat seeing local communities and sights along the way to Badong.

On arrival transfer to small boats for a cruise on Shennong Brook, a tributary of the Yangtze that flows through Longchang, Yingwu and Mianzhu Gorges, (*Pending confirmation and river levels*).

**Presiding/Scribing: Lynn Angell & Davon Cook**

Later this afternoon depart Badong to Yichang.

*Overnight Yangtze River Cruise Ship*

**Presiding/Scribing: Clint Cryer & Duel Glass**

**Mon. May 5 Yichang/Shanghai (B/L/D)**

This morning arrive in Yichang where you will transfer by coach to visit the “3 Gorges Dam”. Receive a tour and briefing of the megastructure and learn about both opportunities and challenges (economic & cultural) that come with such an immense construction project.



**The Three Gorges Dam**

*The Three Gorges Dam, the largest water conservancy project ever undertaken, is being built at Sandouping in the middle of Xiling Gorge, the longest one among the famous Yangtze Three Gorges.*

*The Three Gorges Dam will be 2,335 meters long, 185 meters high, 18 meters wide on top and 130 meters wide at the bottom. The Dam will raise the river to a level of 175 meters above sea level, creating a 600-kilometer long reservoir with a storage capacity of 39.9 billion cubic meters extending from the dam-site all the way to Chongqing. 570,000 acres of farmland and towns and villages in 19 counties and cities will be flooded, causing 1.3 million people to be relocated.*

*The construction of the project will cost 230 billion Chinese Yuan, an equivalent of 28 billion US dollars. The purposes for building this huge dam are flood control, electricity, navigation and irrigation. The construction of the dam formally began under way in 1994. The first stage of the Three Gorges Dam project was completed in 2003. After the dam is completed in 2009, ships will continue cruising the Yangtze River; passengers will then be passing through the largest national park in the world, which will be established upon completion of the dam.*

**Presiding/Scribing: Chad Elinks & Marc Shepard**

After touring the dam, transfer to Yichang airport. Depart at 4:40 pm on MU #5460 to Shanghai.

Arrive Shanghai at 6:25 pm and transfer to your hotel with a brief orientation tour along the way.  
*Overnight Shanghai*

**Presiding/Scribing: Eva Perry & Terry Hlavinka**

**Tue. May 6 Shanghai (B/L/D)**

This morning receive a short briefing from representatives of the Shanghai office of the U.S. Foreign Agriculture Service (TBD). FAS staff will be able to address the group on topics specific to the Shanghai region and its status as the financial center of China.

Continue with meetings with representatives of US based companies in the private sector such as Cargill (*not confirmed*) for briefings and facility tours. Commodities of interest include cotton.

**Presiding/Scribing: Beverly Moseley & Richie Moss**

By late afternoon meet with associates of the US Meat Export Federation to learn about their marketing and promotion efforts in China.

Enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a restaurant featuring chefs trained at US Meat Export Federation (USMEF) schools in how to prepare “US style” cuts of meat.

*Overnight Shanghai*

**Presiding/Scribing: Clayton Henry & Ed Erwin**

**Wed. May 7 Shanghai-Inchon-DFW (B/L/D)**

Start the day with a visit to Shanghia #36, a spinning Mill outside of the city in Chuansha. After the mill continue with a visit to an interesting local traditional retail “wet market” where city residents purchase their fresh meat, vegetables, fruit and supplies. Immediately following you will have a contrasting visit to a “modern” supermarket.

**Presiding/Scribing: Trae Ottmers & Thomas Northcutt**

This afternoon receive a city tour of Shanghai including a visit to the Jade Buddha Temple and nearby local shopping markets.

Continue with a visit to the BUND followed by a short boat tour (*about a 1 hour cruise*) on the Huangpu River with an opportunity to view the port area and shipping facilities along the way.

**Presiding/Scribing: Rich Zarria & Berry Summerour**

This evening transfer to the airport and check in for your flights back home.

Depart at 9:20 pm on KE #896 to Inchon. Arrive Inchon just after midnight at 12:15 am.

**Thu. May 8 Arrive DFW (B)**

Continue on your connecting flight from Inchon to Dallas on KE #31.

Arrive DFW airport at 8:50 am.

*This itinerary is designed to reflect the specific interests of the group including farm/ranch visits, meetings with industry experts, and discussions and exposure to a wide variety of issues and topics.  
Due to the nature of the visits the itinerary & times are subject to change.*