

## **CYC Counseling Offers Training for Book Club Facilitators**

The China Youth Corps (CYC) Counseling Center, better known as “Teacher Chang,”kicked off a workshop series for book club facilitators on March 24. The classes instruct leaders how to encourage club members to engage in thought-provoking discussion and apply what they learn in their daily life.

The center said that while many people belong to or lead book clubs in Taiwan, the meetings often turn into idle chatter rather than focusing on the reading material. Before forming a club, it noted, facilitators should find out what the participants hope to achieve and what type of reading material they would like to discuss.

Club leaders should amply prepare the reading material, set clear guidelines for discussions in a relaxed and open manner, and raise questions to encourage constructive exchange, the center added.

(Compiled from the United Daily News, March 17, 2000)

## **Books Displayed on Navy Friendship Vessel**

National Book Month sponsor the Government Information Office (GIO), Executive Yuan gave a new twist to the annual event by adding the Navy's Friendship Vessel as one of the book display venues. The ship will sail to ports around Taiwan so that the exhibit may reach a greater number of readers.

The GIO said that the navy vessel would bring the exhibit to Kaohsiung, Keelung, Suao, Hualien, and other ports in the coming years. The sponsor hopes that the novelty of the on-board exhibit will generate greater interest in the show. Last year alone, more than 300,000 people toured the navy ship.

The Navy readily gave its consent when the GIO approached it about the idea, noting that the plan also gives crew members a chance to take part in the exhibit and pick up some new reading material.

(Compiled and translated from the Min Sheng Pao, April 24, 2000)

## **Touring Book Fair Opens at Ilan County Cultural Center**

The 2000 National Touring Book Fair sponsored by the Council for Cultural Affairs, Executive Yuan kicked off its tour of Taiwan on March 18 at the Ilan County Cultural Center. Adopting the theme,“Caring for the World, Fostering Sustainable Lifestyles,”the fair stayed in Ilan until March 23 before continuing on to the next stop.

In addition to displaying thousands of books and magazines, the fair aimed to raise awareness of the nature and the importance of environmental protection. Volumes on these themes were showcased at the main fair pavilion.

Several activities were held during the event, including a flea market book exchange to promote the recycling of books; an oath-giving ceremony to promote environmental protection; outdoor weekend activities for parents and children; library field trips; environmental protection workshops showing ways to recycle waste materials; and an online competition in which people could submit articles on environmental themes and vote for the most beautiful spot in Taiwan.

## **20,000 Volumes Picked for Book Exchange**

Nearly 20,000 publications were donated to the Taipei County Cultural Bureau for a book exchange fair held on March 5.

The bureau sorted through the donations, many of which were books for children and teenagers, to ensure a good balance between quality and quantity. The bureau itself contributed more than a thousand new titles for juvenile readers, as well as audio-visual, multimedia, and in-house publications to broaden the choices available.

The activity was held primarily for readers that had previously donated books for exchange. Donors receive

points for contributed titles and could exchange these for other books on display.

Sponsors only accepted volumes in good condition and that were published after 1981 in accordance with copyright laws. College textbooks, reference materials, magazines, and promotional literature were also excluded.

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