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Portland C.A.C.A. Times

A Publication of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge

Website: www.c.a.c.a.portland.org

Oct /Dec 2010

Be The Difference...Embrace The Challenge by Helen L. Ying

"Be The Difference" and "Embrace The Challenge" are possible themes from a brainstorm session for the 19th Annual Asian American Youth Leadership Conference to be held at the PCC Sylvania Campus on April 29, 2011. Mr. Paul Duong, the founder of the conference contacted our lodge in September and asked us to consider advancing our role in the conference from a co-sponsor to a leadership role as well as act as its fiscal agent. The Board accepted Mr. Duong's proposal at the October Board meeting. Mr. Duong chose C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge to assume the role that was previously held by the Center for New Americans (CNA), an organization that is soon to be dissolved due to changes in its leadership. In his proposal, he wrote, "Our hope has been that another community-based organization could pick up the mantle and take over the role of supporting the AAYLC. To my knowledge and given my experience working with Portland's diverse community, C.A.C.A.'s educational goals offer the best fit with the mission of the AAYLC."

Our lodge is honored to be seen through those lenses by others. It is with the effort and commitment of our members and friends that we have been able to be active in the community in such a manner. Our hope is that more will join us in these endeavors. Here are some ways you could continue to support our work in the community:

- Participate in our Annual Toy and Food Drive by sending in your donations by December 15, 2010.
- Join us in our Annual Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner to be held on February 21, 2011 at Wong's King Restaurant.
- Nominate a deserving recipient for our lodge's first Citizen's Award to be recognized at the Chinese New Year Celebration Dinner.
- Volunteer for our Youth Basketball Program which runs from November to March.
- Volunteer for the Annual AAYLC to be held on April 29, 2011.

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Information:

Phone:
503-925-5226
Website:
www.cacaportland.org
Email:
info@cacaportland.org

Tax-Deductible Contribution:

Please make your check to "C.A.C.A. CIF"

And mail to:
C.A.C.A.
11453 SE Hazel Hill Rd
Clackamas, OR 97086

Membership:

Use the form at:
www.cacaportland.org/docs/CACA_Membership_Application.pdf

Dues are \$15 annually.

2010 Portland C.A.C.A. Officers:

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Moreover, we are also engaged in taking the leadership in organizing a film event in cooperation with other community organizations targeting a younger audience, ages 20 to 40 with the goal of raising awareness of the need for community involvement improving the quality of life in the U.S. for AAPIs. VINCENT WHO? Directed and produced by Curtis Chin will be shown at this first annual event: <http://www.apaforprogress.org/vincent-who-official-film-page>

*VINCENT WHO? (40 minutes) - In 1982, at the height of anti-Japanese sentiments, Vincent Chin was murdered in Detroit by two white autoworkers who said, "it's because of you mother** that we're out of work." When the judge fined the killers a mere \$3,000 and three years of probation, Asian Americans around the country galvanized to form a real community and movement. This documentary, inspired by a series of townhalls organized by Asian Pacific Americans for Progress on the 25th Anniversary of the case, features interviews with key players at the time, as well as a whole new generation of activists. "Vincent Who?" asks how far Asian Americans have come since then and how far we have yet to go.*

The event will take place in the spring of 2011. More details will be forthcoming.



Celebrate Chinese New Year with
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

Portland Lodge

February 21, 2011

Monday, 5:30 pm

Wong's King Restaurant

8733 SE Division St.

Portland, OR

\$50 per person (\$30 tax deductible)

\$500 for a table of 10

(\$300 tax deductible)

For reservations, please call

Mrs. Lee at 503-221-8773

or email info@cacaportland.org

Please make checks out to: C.A.C.A. CIF

and send to: C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge

11453 SE Hazel Hill Road,

Happy Valley, OR 97086

*Spend a fun filled evening
together with friends.*

*All proceeds will go toward supporting
our youth and scholarship programs.*

Federal ID: 94-3175213





C.A.C.A. ANNUAL TOY & FOOD DRIVE



Our Annual Food and Toy Drive will conclude on December 18, 2010. We raised close to \$900.00 last year and was able to help 35 families in the Asian community. Our goal is to exceed last year's giving to help needy families during the continued downturn in the economy. As in the years past, we will be purchasing gift cards with the donations and share the gifts with the less fortunate Asian families. The gifts will be distributed through the Asian Health Service Center. Please send your support toward this project. Make your check out to C.A.C.A. CIF and mail to C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge, 11453 S.E. Hazel Hill Road, Happy Valley, OR, 97086.



Basketball Program to Begin New Season Cyrus J. Lee, C.A.C.A. Basketball Program Coordinator

C.A.C.A. basketball teams have started practicing for the 2011 season. This season marks the program's 37th year. The mission of the Basketball program is to help develop the participants into leaders and outstanding citizens within the community. We provide the opportunity for the players to interact and have fun with fellow players and adult volunteers and to follow the C.A.C.A. Basketball Program Code of Conduct. Indeed, many of our new assistant coaches are just a few years removed from having played in the program themselves and are now giving back to the program by coaching and teaching current participants.

The program participates in the Portland Parks and Recreational District Saturday Youth Basketball League (SYBL). The SYBL consists of 5th through 12th grade boys and girls teams. The games and practices are held at Portland Public Schools middle and grade schools. There are a total of ten games played on Saturdays in January through March, with no playoffs. The games follow the official National Federation of State High School Association rules, with modifications for 6th grade and under. Practices started in late November and end in mid-March. At the end of the regular season, the C.A.C.A. Basketball Tournament will be held for the high school boys teams. The week before, C.A.C.A. will participate in the SCAA Al Mar Invitational, which will be held in mid March, in Seattle. Competition between Portland and Seattle has created over 30 years of long lasting friendships.

This year, we welcome back the following coaches with the following teams: Phong Nguyen (8th Grade Boys, Tsunami), Thomas Phuong (High School Girls, Illicit), Bryant Dong (11th/12th Grade Boys, Rebels), Stephan Tran (11th/12th Grade Boys, Hornets), and Shawn Saysensesouk (11th/12th Grade Boys, Warriors). Additionally, the C.A.C.A. Dragons (three-time defending C.A.C.A. Champions) once again will be fielding two teams this season. We also welcome the following new coaches: David Noeun (Dynasty), Chris Tang (Tigers), and John Chit (Rangers).

Dragons Basketball is also partnering with the Harrison Park SUN (Schools Uniting Neighborhoods) this year and will helping to provide program services to the school.

If you would like to participate in the C.A.C.A. program as a volunteer, or know anyone who would like to participate as a volunteer, please contact C.A.C.A. at basketball@cacaportland.org. Players can either register individually or as a team. The cost for high school players averages to be around \$65.00 (fees are assessed to an entire team at the rate of \$650.00), and for middle school and younger players around \$50.00.



C.A.C.A. Hosts Roundtable Meeting for “1882 Project” *Carolyn H. Chan, Grand President*



Grand President Carolyn Chan and Past Grand President Munson Kwok hosted a Roundtable meeting of leading San Francisco-based advocacy organizations on November 1, 2010, to discuss current status of the “1882 Project” and to strategize for its national support. Additional Participants were: OCA – Michael Lin, former president and former ED and member of DC Steering Committee; Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation - ED Eddie Wong; Past President Felicia Lowe; President Buck Gee; Chinese Historical Society of America; ED Sue Lee; Chinese for Affirmative Action; ED Vincent Pan; President’s Advisory Commission for AAPI, Chair Daphne Kwok. *By teleconference* - Committee of 100 Vice Chair of Northern California; Pehong Chen; OCA-SF Chapter President Sherman Tang; Cindy Tong; Hon. Judy Chu (CA-32); Amelia Wang, Chief of Staff, Allison Rose, Legislative Director for Rep. Chu; OCA-DC Steering Committee; Haipei Shue; ED of National Council of Chinese Americans (NCCA) and member of DC Steering Committee.

The 1882 Project will address the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act and other Acts of Congress that barred Chinese persons and other Asian persons from American citizenship, denied their civil rights, and excluding them from immigrating to the United States.

On July 17, 2009, a concurrent resolution, ACR42, introduced by Assembly Members Paul Fong and Kevin De Leon was passed in both houses of the California Assembly and signed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. The resolution is to “acknowledge the history of the Chinese in California, recognize the contributions made to the State of California by Chinese Americans and Chinese immigrants, and express regret for past discriminatory laws and constitutional provisions which resulted in the persecution of Chinese living in California.”

Spurred by California’s success, the Grand Council passed a resolution on August 7, 2009, directing the Grand Board to seek a national apology from Congress for past discriminatory laws against the Chinese in America, including the 1882 Exclusion Act. On its DC Advocacy trip in May, C.A.C.A. met with members of NCCA and OCA jointly visited with some Members of Congress about such legislation. DC-based members of C.A.C.A (Ted Gong and Alex Chan), OCA, and NCCA (National Council of Chinese Americans), and Martin Gold, a DC attorney, who are currently serving as a steering committee, area working closely with Rep. Judy Chu and her staff on draft legislation. Similar Roundtable meetings are taking place in regions with high concentration of Chinese Americans to inform and build momentum and additional collaborative networks.

The Roundtable, called by Michael Lin, was kicked off by Rep. Judy Chu (CA-32) via teleconference call. Rep. Chu commented that it took more than 60 years to repeal the Chinese Exclusion Act, which “left a permanent scar on Chinese in America.” Rep. Chu’s introduction of the bill as a civil rights issue at the beginning of 2011 is only the beginning. Mobilization of civil rights and educational organizations of all ethnicities across the country will be necessary to ensure passage of the legislation. Since Congress has passed only five apology bills in the past 20 years, supporters face an uphill battle, but are committed to accomplishing the goal.

A copy of the draft legislation, a brief of Chinese Exclusion legislation, and a fact sheet about the “1882 Project” were reviewed and discussed. Further comments and suggestions are to be submitted to Amelia Wang, Congresswoman Chu’s Chief of Staff, by November 23.

*Congratulations to Peninsula Lodge member, Assembly Member **Paul Fong**, who reports being named 2011 Legislator of the Year by the Board of Governors of the Faculty Assn. of California Community Colleges for his “dedicated service to community college faculty and the promotion of career technical education.” Fong authored AB 1903 and AB 1807, both of which aimed at helping job seekers.*

A BIG WELCOME TO TWO NEW MEMBERS

We extend a huge warm welcome to Paul Duong and Bin Chen who joined our lodge in October and November respectively. A viable base of membership is important to the sustainability and growth of an organization. For C.A.C.A. members who have yet to send in their \$15 dues for 2010, there is still time, and we would appreciate your continued support. In fact, this would also be a great time to send in the dues for 2011--a terrific opportunity to get a jump on the new year!

Please send your dues to C.A.C.A., c/o 11453 SE Hazel Hill Road, Happy Valley, Oregon, 97086

C.A.C.A. Scholarship Opportunities

by Dr. Kent Lee



Fred G. Lee Memorial Scholarship

For about 30 years the Portland Lodge of the C.A.C.A. has sponsored the Fred G. Lee Memorial Scholarship for qualified Oregon and Clark County of Washington State graduating high school senior students. This scholarship is awarded to graduating senior students on the merits of academics, leadership, and community involvement. The winner receives a \$4000.00 scholarship and two runner-up amounts are for \$1000.00 each. Applications for this scholarship are due by April 1, 2011.

All applicants must have a parent/guardian who is a member of the C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge. Chinese Ancestry is not a requirement for scholarship applicants or members. Membership applications will be available with the scholarship application and are available at www.cacaportland.org. At least one of the three scholarships will be awarded to a student who attends a college in Oregon or Washington.

Tiffany Wang Arts Scholarship

Two students will be selected to each receive \$500 towards a summer arts program. These arts scholarships are offered for (1) pre-college student (grades 9-11) who are interested in attending a summer arts program, (2) demonstrated financial need, and (3) talent in the fine or performing arts. This scholarship is for qualified Oregon and Clark County of Washington State high school students (grades 9-11).

The applications and more information for the above mentioned scholarships and contest will be posted on our website (www.CACAPortland.org) soon, and will be available at Oregon and Clark County of Washington State high schools in early 2011.

Essay Contest

Each year the Grand Lodge and our local lodge sponsors an essay contest. The goal of this contest is to build leadership skills for young community leaders of tomorrow by encouraging good English writing skills, and demonstrating the ability to present clear, logical thinking on an issue of current national relevance. Applicants are expected to prepare and write a 500 word English theme within two hours, on a topic given at the beginning of the contest. Judging is conducted by a national board of judges organized by the Grand Lodge of the C.A.C.A. The essays are evaluated for originality, clarity of thought and expression, and correctness of grammar and spelling. This contest is open to qualified Oregon and Clark County of Washington State high school students (grades 9-12).

BI-LINGUAL FINANCIAL AID

WORKSHOP by Betty Jean Lee

On November 6th, with the assistance of Bunny Chow, Grace Ding, and David Wang we held a financial aid workshop. There are many non-English speaking families that are not aware of opportunities available to them for financial aid to colleges for their children. Bunny, Grace, and David held an informative power point presentation in Mandarin to grandparents, parents, and students at the Asian Health & Service Center. There were many questions, and the presenters stayed and assisted many of the students.

Past Scholarship Recipient, Ms. Kate Chan gives back in memory of her father

Kate Chan, a C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge member and past scholarship recipient along with her family chose our lodge as the recipient of a gift donation given from her work - LEARNING.COM, INC. in honor of her father, Mr. Wilfred Chan who passed away on November 3, 2010.

In her thank you note to LEARNING.COM, INC, she wrote:

"My family is deeply honored by Learning.com's generous donation to a charity in our father's honor. We'd like the donation to go to the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, Portland Lodge. This organization provides scholarships to Chinese American students and is also charged with promoting the civil rights of Chinese Americans."

We appreciate Kate and her families' gift and feel valued by their affirmation of the work that we are involved in. We remember and honor Mr. Chan with her family.

Mr. Chan immigrated from China in the mid-1940s and even remembered watching when Harry Truman was elected on a Sears Department store television - such a sight to see as a new immigrant seeing the democratic election process at work.

His wife, Joyce Can and daughters, Doris and Hannah joined him in the US in 1966, and later had daughters Kate and Karen. Mr. Chan was educated as a civil engineer, but because of the immigration laws in the US, he was unable to practice. Instead, he worked as a chef in a Chinese restaurant downtown, and eventually, he and his wife (with the help of all four of daughters) opened up The Garden of Chan in NE Portland. Through his life, he financially supported his and his wife's siblings when they were in China and eventually brought them all over to the United States to escape Communism in the mid-1980s. Mr. Chan is survived by his wife and daughters, Doris, Hannah, Kate, Karen and their families.



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