



波特蘭同源會

Portland C.A.C.A. Times

A Publication of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge

Website: www.cacaportland.org

March 2011

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
Happy Valley, OR
97086

Membership:

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

Dues are \$15 annually.

2011 Portland C.A.C.A. Officers:

President

Dr. Cyrus Lee

Vice President

Diana Davis

Secretary

Betty Jean Lee

Treasurer

Randy Choy

Auditor

Stephen Ying

Marshall

Dr. Kent Lee

Sentinel

Shelley Miyahara

Collector

Wisdom Ming

Grand Rep.

Franklin Quan

Board of Directors:

Helen L. Ying

Democracy Is Not A Spectator Sport

Helen L. Ying

We're reminded time and again of the power of organizing -- of people standing up and speaking out in their communities. That kind of effective organizing doesn't happen in a vacuum. It takes commitment, time, and hard work to build a movement around a cause. One hundred years ago, the "people" under the leadership of Dr. Sun Yat San overthrew the Qing Dynasty, the last imperial dynasty of China and started a journey of transformation for that country. Last month, the "people" of Egypt did something similar and the same is happening in Libya. There is a plethora of other examples from which we could see the power of organizing. All of us can participate in making our community better.

I attended a workshop last month at the Portland City Hall organized by the office of Commissioner Amanda Fritz entitled, "Advocacy at the State level - How to be effective with legislators". It was very informative and empowering. Some of the take-aways for me were:

- Don't be intimidated. Citizen involvement in our government is vital.
- Oregon has a citizen legislature (meaning that most legislators have other jobs.)
- Legislators need to be educated about issues. They are presented with close to 3000 bills during the sessions.

The big corporations or interest groups would get their way unless citizens as individuals are involved in sharing their voice in the process.

The bottom line is that the power of democracy is in your hands. (continued on page 2)

A Night to Remember - Celebrations and Acknowledgements

Dr. Cyrus Lee, President

On Monday, February 21, 2011, the Portland Lodge was proud to have C.A.C.A. Grand President Carolyn Chan (Albuquerque, NM) as the keynote speaker for the Chinese New Year dinner and 90th Anniversary celebration of our Lodge. Over 280 attended our annual fundraiser held at Wong's King Seafood in Southeast Portland. The highly successful event was attended by C.A.C.A. members, representatives from family associations, political dignitaries including federal, state, county and city officials, and members of community partners such as AAYLC, CCBA, JAAC, APANO, the Lan Su Chinese Garden, NW China Council, and the Asian Health and Service Center. (continued on page 3)



Democracy Is Not A Spectator Sport (continued from page 1)

The State of the Union Address that President Obama delivered on January 25 speaks directly about the beauty of democracy and the power of the people in a democratic society:

We are part of the American family. We believe that in a country where every race and faith and point of view can be found, we are still bound together as one people; that we share common hopes and a common creed; that the dreams of a little girl in Tucson are not so different than those of our own children, and that they all deserve the chance to be fulfilled.

In the end, it's our ideals, our values that built America -- values that allowed us to forge a nation made up of immigrants from every corner of the globe; values that drive our citizens still. Every day, Americans meet their responsibilities to their families and their employers. Time and again, they lend a hand to their neighbors and give back to their country. They take pride in their labor, and are generous in spirit. These aren't Republican values or Democratic values that they're living by; business values or labor values. They're American values.

We should have no illusions about the work ahead of us. Reforming our schools, changing the way we use energy, reducing our deficit -- none of this will be easy. All of it will take time. And it will be harder because we will argue about everything. The costs. The details. The letter of every law.

Of course, some countries don't have this problem. If the central government wants a railroad, they build a railroad, no matter how many homes get bulldozed. If they don't want a bad story in the newspaper, it doesn't get written.

And yet, as contentious and frustrating and messy as our democracy can sometimes be, I know there isn't a person here who would trade places with any other nation on Earth.

We may have differences in policy, but we all believe in the rights enshrined in our Constitution. We may have different opinions, but we believe in the same promise that says this is a place where you can make it if you try. We may have different backgrounds, but we believe in the same dream that says this is a country where anything is possible. No matter who you are. No matter where you come from.

That dream is why I can stand here before you tonight. That dream is why a working-class kid from Scranton can sit behind me. That dream is why someone who began by sweeping the floors of his father's Cincinnati bar can preside as Speaker of the House in the greatest nation on Earth.

We, the people can do BIG THINGS. What will you do in contributing to a better America?

Warm Welcome to Our New Members

Our lodge is excited to add new members into the Alliance family. We warmly welcome our new members and look forward to their active engagement and involvement in the years to come.

- | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Wendy Chan | Hueling Chang | Michael Chang | Christine Chin Ryan | Holden Leung |
| Sara Lin | Sheeny Liu Behmard | Patrick Wong | Andy Xie | Wendy Zhang |

Save The Date - Annual Scholarship Awards & Recognition Banquet



Our annual scholarship awards and recognition banquet will be held on **Sunday, June 5, 2011.**

We look forward to meeting all the scholarship applicants and essay contestants as well as their family members at the banquet. Basketball coaches will also be recognized at the event. Please mark your calendar and join us for a wonderful evening of fun and camaraderie.

A Night to Remember (continued from page 1)



Prior to dinner, Carolyn Chan and Helen Ying met U.S. Congressman Earl Blumenauer (3rd District) and told him about the 1882 Project. The 1882 project is a nonpartisan, grassroots effort focused on educating lawmakers and the public about the Chinese Exclusion Laws and the impact such legislation had on Chinese-American history.

He expressed support for the proposed bill of Resolution, which a California Rep. Judy Chu will author.

Other dignitaries at the head table were former Mayor Bud Clark, former Mayor Tom Potter and his wife Karin Hansen, City Commissioner Amanda Fritz, and Willis Van Duesen, Mayor of Astoria, Oregon.

The dinner also served to award our Lodge's First Annual Citizens Award. The award honors someone who personifies the mission of the Portland Lodge: Develop leadership, Serve the community, and Promote civil rights. The recipient was Suenn Ho. "Suenn has worked throughout her career to bridge diverse communities, cultures, and history through design and teaching in the belief that people and art make up the essence of the built environment. She sees that life is full of creative and collaborative thinking and that our communities thrive on a sense of duty to build better places to live and the questions of "what if?" and "why not?" (<http://www.astoriachineseheritage.org/SuennHoBio.html>). Suenn is currently designing the Astoria Chinese Heritage Park. Astoria's Mayor, Willis Van Dusen also offered his "Congratulations".

Mayor Duesen told a very telling story of Suenn's impact on his city: Google had recently given computers to students in all of the high schools in Astoria. During a school assembly welcoming Google, the student body president proceeded to enumerate the many contributions of Chinese in Astoria to that community. At one time, one-fourth of the population 20,000, were Chinese who had built the canals, the railroad into Astoria, the farming industry, and the fishing industry. All this he learned from Suenn's works.

Finally, Grand President Chan congratulated our Portland Lodge on our community impact, and described the mission of C.A.C.A. - equality, justice, empowerment, and responsible American patriotism.



1882 Project Seeks Congressional Recognition for 130 Year-Old Injustice (Excerpts from the March 2011 C.A.C.A. Times in Southern California)

The 1882 Project involves the Grand Lodge of C.A.C.A., Committee of 100, National Council of Chinese Americans, and OCA (Organization of Chinese Americans). The Alliance's involvement is in accordance to Resolution 23 of the 50th Biennial National Convention, held in the San Gabriel Valley. Project 1882 is the beginning of a grass roots movement across America to support the proposed bill of Resolution, which a California Rep. Judy Chu will author. The objectives of the 1882 Project are to:

- Seek an expression of regret if not apology from the U.S. Congress and Federal Government
- Establish a "National Day of Inclusion" to promote diversity and tolerance in the American society. (Continued on page 5)

THANK YOU - You are the reason by Betty Jean Lee

February 21, 2011 Wong's King Restaurant was packed with guests from all over to help us celebrate the Chinese New Year and our 90th Anniversary. It was definitely a full house and everyone enjoyed the delicious dinner and our entertaining emcees, Stephen and Helen Ying. Our national President, Carolyn Chan, was also present to give us a \$500 donation from Grand Lodge to acknowledge our 90th Anniversary. We are blessed to have such loyal and generous guests who organized/purchased full tables. Our sincere thanks to the following:

Samson Cheung (Palace Construction), John Flynn, Mariko Locke (State Farm), West Coast Bank, Clement Lo, Randy Choy, HQ LA, Paul Duong, Gene Huey, Dr. Szeto (AHSC), Christine Chin Ryan, Raymond Cheung, George Fung, and Paul Leung. We also want to express many thanks to the volunteers as well. Last but not the least, we acknowledge all the generous donors for their gifts for our auction and raffle - it was amazing that we sold \$2085 in raffles and \$1090 in the oral auction through the generous support of YOU, our guests and the donors:

An Dong Market, Ann Olsen, Betty Jean Lee, Canton Grill Restaurant, Carolyn Lee, Chang Fa Supermarket, China Farm Inc., Clement Lo, Cupcake Jones, Frank & Sharry Quan, Hong Kong Café, Jack & Suzy Welch, Janet & Norman Locke, Karl Wardrop, King's Bakery, L.K. Food Trading Inc., Lan Su Gardens, Last Frontier Casino, Melanie Ying, New Happy Fortune Restaurant, New World, Video Inc., Oriental Food Value Supermarket, Pacific Supermarket Corp, Palace Construction Inc., Serenity Art Inc., Spirit Mt Casino, and Wong's King Restaurant.



Come to China with Us...

2011 Portland Lodge 13 Days China Trip

Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Guangzhou, Foshan, Zhongshan - hometown of Sun Yat-Sen, and Taishen (September 26 to October 8)

Optional trip extension to Taiwan for the Double Ten Celebration



The C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge is organizing a China trip with travel arrangements provided by Asia America Travel Services. The objectives of this trip are

- To offer our members and friends the opportunity to visit and learn about China as well as for Chinese Americans to visit the hometown of their ancestry.
- To raise fund to support our youth programs.

In addition to the cost of the land tour, air fare, visa fee, and personal expenses, we are requesting all participants to donate \$100.00 to the C.A.C.A. CIF (tax deductible). The itinerary is attached.

Please email Betty Jean Lee at bleepdx@earthlink.net if your are interested in joining the trip or simply would like more information.

An informational meeting will be held in April.



History of the Exclusion Acts (Cont. from page 3)



Established as a United States federal law by President Chester A. Arthur on May 8, 1882, the Chinese Exclusion Act placed major restrictions on free immigration in U.S. history. The Act specifically targeted Chinese "skilled and unskilled laborers and Chinese employed in mining," blocking entry into the U.S. for ten years under penalty of imprisonment and deportation. The few Chinese non-laborers who wished to immigrate had to obtain certification from the Chinese government that they were qualified to immigrate, which tended to be difficult to prove. The Act also impacted Asians who were settled in the United States. Any Chinese who left the United States were required to obtain certifications for reentry, and the Act made Chinese immigrants permanent aliens by excluding them from U.S. citizenship. Following the Act's passage, Chinese males residing in the U.S. had little chance of reuniting with their wives, or of starting families in their new homes.

Amendments made in 1884 tightened the provisions that allowed previous immigrants to leave and return, and clarified that the law applied to all ethnic Chinese regardless of their country of origin. In 1888 Congress passed the Scott Act which expanded upon the Chinese Exclusion Act, prohibiting reentry after leaving the U.S. The Act was renewed for ten years by the Geary Act (1892), and again with no terminal date in 1902. Upon extension in 1902, the Act required "each Chinese resident to register and obtain a certificate of residence. Without a certificate, he or she faced deportation."

The Act came under challenges between 1882 and 1905, where about 10,000 Chinese appealed against negative immigration decisions in Federal court, usually via a petition for habeas corpus. In most of these cases, the courts ruled in favor of the petitioner.

In August 1895, an American-born Chinese named Wong Kim Ark returned to his native San Francisco following a visit to China. When the steamship docked, Wong was detained by customs officials who refused to accept his claim that he was an American citizen because of the law that restricted Chinese immigration and prohibiting immigrants from China from becoming naturalized U.S. citizens. Wong challenged the whether the government could deny naturalization to persons born in the United States in violation of the Fourteenth Amendment (Section 1: "*All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.*"). With a 6-2 majority, the Supreme Court decided that the government could not deny naturalization to anyone born in the United States.

The Chinese Exclusion Act was finally repealed by the 1943 Magnuson Act, which permitted Chinese nationals already residing in the country to become naturalized citizens. It also set a national quota of 105 Chinese immigrants per year and Chinese immigration did not increase significant until the passage of the Immigration Act of 1965. Los Angeles Lodge served as venue host for the Southern California Roundtable, as Project 1882 goes from region to region to rouse support for the pending proposed resolution of Apology that will be submitted by Rep. Judy Chu. Chu herself graced the LA Lodge hall and stayed an hour to listen to the presentation of Bro. Ted Gong, of DC Lodge, who is fast becoming the Project intellectual and historical expert nationally. Gong, in examining the law and its history noted two important points which may be key to early passage. One is the compelling fact that the last remaining Chinese Americans who directly suffered under Exclusion are dying off, just as the veterans of WWII are also departing us. "We must do something now for their closure." As part of an ethnic group, we seek emotionally an apology, but Gong's point is that the more profound lesson from the Chinese Exclusion Act is that our democracy, our very Congress, is also a two-sided instrument, capable of creating willful injustice and racism as law. That it behooves ALL Americans to be vigilant and responsible at all times. The real regret therefore is not just that the Chinese suffered, but that the American Congress was capable of such terrible acts. On the other hand, the American system can also correct itself, as we are all hoping to verify.

Annual Essay Contest by Wisdom Ming

Eight high school students participated in the Annual National C.A.C.A. Essay Contest held on March 5th. It is open to any high school student of any ancestry. The students had two hours to complete their 500 word maximum response to a thought provoking question. The essay topic is revealed on the day of the contest.

The goal of the essay contest is to allow the students to voice their opinion in writing on an Asian-American related topic. This year's topic was related to Amy Chua's book *Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother*. It has had much exposure since an excerpt was published in the *Wall Street Journal*. The book has caused much controversy and has spurred discussion about parenting. The essay question was as follows: *As a teenager, what is your take on Amy Chua's style of parenting, and why?*

Winners will be announced at the scholarship dinner in June. Cash prizes range from \$50 to \$1000.00. Good luck to all of them!

Reception for White House Initiative on API Commissioner Hyeok Kim

On October 14, 2009 President Obama signed an executive order that restores the White House Initiative and President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to address issues concerning the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. President Obama established the President's Advisory Commission to work with all the agencies of the federal government to improve the health, education and economic status of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities. The members of the Interagency Working Group are tasked to create and implement agency plans to increase participation in and access to federal programs in which Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders may be underserved. We are excited to host a reception for Commissioner Hyeok Kim to meet with local Asian American community leaders in May. This will be a great opportunity for us to discuss about Asian American issues at large and tap into resources at the federal level. Please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/aapi> for more details about the Advisory Commission.

Congratulations to the New C.A.C.A. Seattle Lodge

You are invited to be a part of an historical moment as Chinese American Citizens Alliance charters its new lodge in Seattle, Washington.

Date: March 26, 2011 (Saturday)

Time: 5:30 pm

New Star Seafood Restaurant

516 S. Jackson St.

Seattle, Washington, 98104

Cost: \$10.00 for adults

\$ 5.00 for children (3 to 12)

Contact person: **Ming Ming Tung-Edelman,**

(206) 321-1502

Please RSVP by March 24, 2011

E-mail: littlebugmte@hotmail.com

Grand Lodge Representatives including

Grand President Carolyn Chan

Executive Vice President Virginia Gee

Grand Vice President John Wong

Past Grand President Munson Kwok

will also be in attendance.

Where is OLD CHINATOWN?

How many of you are native Portlanders who remember the original Chinatown? It was the block across from the old Police Station on S.W. 2nd and Oak. Many of us "old timers" have talked about having some type of historic recognition for this site.

Suenn Ho, who designed the bronze plaques in the current Chinatown is willing to design a plaque or other artwork without a fee. However, having the piece made in China and shipped will cost approximately \$2,000. We will request the city officials to donate the cost of installation. Do you think this is a good idea, would you donate? Please let us hear from you. Send us an e-mail to bleepdx@earthlink.net.

With Spring Approaching, It Must Be Basketball Tournament Time for C.A.C.A. by Randy Choy



Now that the City of Portland basketball league regular season is completed, the C.A.C.A. boys and girls teams are gearing up for the always exciting and fun-filled end-of-season tournaments, our version of "March Madness".

The annual C.A.C.A. Invitational is scheduled for March 19-20 at Oregon City High School. The C.A.C.A. teams will play our traditional rivals from the north, teams from the Seattle Chinese Athletic Association (S.C.A.A.), as well as teams from other leagues in the Portland region. In addition, the "tournament within the tournament" will pit the C.A.C.A. high school boys' teams against one another in a single-elimination format as teams vie for the much-coveted championship trophy—a trophy that has been claimed by the Dragons senior team the past three seasons.

Friends, family members, and any and all basketball fans are encouraged to attend the Invitational to cheer on their favorite team and players. In an effort to raise funds for the basketball program, new t-shirts commemorating the 2011 C.A.C.A. Invitational will be on sale onsite for an affordable price, so we encourage you to purchase your t-shirts, too!

The following weekend, March 26-27, will be the annual Al Mar Invitational, sponsored by S.C.A.A. Most of the C.A.C.A. teams will make the journey to Seattle for this important basketball tournament that always creates new and fond memories for all of the players, coaches, and families involved.

The basketball program is C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge's signature youth development program, dating back at least 40 years. Team practices, regular season games through the City of Portland Recreation League, and the tournaments with S.C.A.A. teams continue the tradition that started with Chinese-American community leaders like Ron "Rolo" Eng, Fred Lee, Leonard Lee, Robert "Wiz" Wong, Fong Yee, and many, many others. Those of us involved with C.A.C.A. hope to continue to build upon such a tremendous foundation in order to serve our community's youth, coaches, and their families. For more information on the basketball program, please send us an email!



Remembering LEONARD LEE

by Betty Jean Lee

Early January we learned the sad news of our friend and long time member, Leonard Lee's passing. Leonard was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and loyal member of Portland Lodge C.A.C.A. By profession, he was an engineer. Many of us remember him as a runner, photographer, dancer, calligrapher and singer. He was always excited to participate in all of our Lodge's activities and was our official photographer. In his younger years, he helped in the basketball program, and believed whole heartedly in our educational and scholarship programs. He loved attending the National Grand Lodge conventions with his family, and answered roll call by singing, "ON A CLEAR DAY".

Leonard was a firm believer of exercise and was a member of the YMCA DAWN PATROL that would run before work. We all agree with his friends on the DAWN PATROL that "you could not help but like Leonard".

On behalf of Portland Lodge, we thank Leonard's family for requesting donations be made in his memory to our Community Involvement Fund to continue what was near and dear to Leonard's heart. We want to extend "thank you's" to all of Leonard's friends who have donated in his memory. It was once said, "Life is nothing without friendship". Leonard was proof of that. We will miss him, but will remember the good times through his photography.



C.A.C.A. Portland
11453 SE Hazel Hill Road
Clackamas, OR 97086