



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](http://www.cacaportland.org)

Spring 2009

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### Membership:

Use the form at:  
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Dues are \$15 annually.

### 2009 Portland C.A.C.A. Officers:

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## Scholarship Awards and Recognition Banquet

Our annual scholarship awards and recognition banquet will be held on Sunday, June 7, 2009 at Wong Kee Restaurant in Chinatown.

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 banquet.

Please mark your calendar and join us for a wonderful evening of fun and camaraderie.

**June 7, 2009, 5:30 PM**

**Wong Kee Restaurant**

**28 NW 4th Ave  
Portland, OR 97209-3802**

**\$10.00 per person**

**R.S.V.P by May 31 to Betty Jean Lee (503-221-8773)**

### **A Fun-Filled Gathering at the Chinese New Year Celebration**

On February 2, 2009, we celebrated with 140 loyal supporters at our annual fundraising dinner at Wong's King Restaurant. Sharry Quan donated beautiful lucky bamboo decorations for each of the tables. Donors this year gave some beautiful and expensive items such as HP digital camera, HP printers, Pearl jewelry, Sou Shan Stoneware, PCCG Bamboo Membership/passes, Chinese shell wall hangings, Spirit Mountain Lodge stay, and dinner, Chinese silver coin, one hour massage, restaurant, grocery, video, bakery, gift cards herbal tea sets, electric toothbrush, and vehicle spa detail. We want to thank the following donors for their generous donations for our raffle: Chang Fa Supermarket, Serenity Art Inc., Oriental Food Value Supermarket, Pacific Supermarket, New World Video Inc., Tin Seng Trading,

King's Bakery, China Farm, Palace Construction, An Dong Market, Frank & Sharry Quan, Sunset Motors John Woo, Carolyn Lee Massage, Portland Classical Chinese Gardens, Janet & Norman Locke, Clement Lo, Karl Wardrop, Diana Davis, Betty Jean Lee, Dr. Kent Lee, Stephen Ying, and Spirit Mt. Casino, an enterprise of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Rhonde. Net proceeds from the dinner was \$4955, raffle, \$1030, donations, \$1260 making a grand total of \$7245. We thank the community for their continued support during these hard economic times. Making this a double celebration, Portland Lodge marked their 88th birthday with delicious sheet cakes from King's Bakery donated by Frank and Sharry Quan.



## SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS NEWS

### Wesley Loo, Princeton University (2006 Fred G. Lee Scholarship Memorial Scholarship Recipient)

In the winter of 2007, I took the position of Co-President of the Princeton Ecology Representatives. As part of our spring semester program, we again publicized the intercollegiate Recyclemania competition and facilitated our end of the year Furniture Drive. Moving to a position of leadership in this organization has definitely consumed more of my time, but I feel as though the experience is much more rewarding. My fellow Co-President and I have started major changes in the organization and operation of our small team of dedicated Eco-Reps to improve recycling efforts all over campus. As part of Princeton's new Sustainability Plan, we have an increased budget and added new projects to our agenda. Our supervisor tells us that we have had 7 quarters of recycling growth, five of which have been led by the other Co-President and me, a small confirmation of our effectiveness at making Princeton more sustainable. I will be sure to keep you updated on our future endeavors.

I spent this past summer in Germany on a grant from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), which allowed me to help a German PhD student with his thesis in the area of Paleoclimatology. Though the internship did not directly relate to molecular biology, I still enjoyed learning about geochemistry as a topic applicable to my future studies. Located in Potsdam (about an hour outside of Berlin), I had a chance to experience the German culture. Berlin is one of a kind; the mixture of old and new, East and West, has created an amazingly diverse urban center. I feel as though the most benefit came not from studying in Germany, but living there. Being in a foreign country always broadens my perspective of the world, and I thoroughly enjoyed this past summer. As I begin my fall semester of junior year, I would like to thank you for continuing to support my education at Princeton. It is a great help in allowing me to pursue all my interests. I hope I have given you a glimpse of my past year, both academically and personally. Sometimes, a small glimpse is all I get when I finally get the chance to sit down and appreciate my experience here.



### Natalie Matthews, Harvard University (2007 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Scholarship Winner )

Although I was a very involved philanthropist and extra-curricular fiend in high school I knew that in college I could not continue the slew of activities in college. The rigor and commitment to classes and piano drastically increased. Activities that once helped define myself I could no longer continue. I had to pick and choose what I wanted to keep in my life and what I would have to leave behind. I discontinued my participation in Policy debate after debating with the Harvard Policy debate team for one semester. I discovered that I could not juggle debate, school, piano, and neuroscience research. Debate had provided academic interest and a community for me in high school, letting go of this activity was one of the most heartbreaking experiences of my life. I also chose to discontinue violin, an instrument that I played for over six years and focused on for most of my high school career. The demand to excel and complete juries for both piano and violin was too great and I had to choose one instrument. My dedication to the piano for over ten years became the winning candidate. Leadership activities such as Model United Nations, leading tutoring programs, and my involvement as president with various Asian student groups were also left behind.

Although I did not lead, I have never felt more connected to the Chinese community by being a member of the Wellesley Chinese Student Union. Living in Eugene where the Chinese population and community is small, moving to a college campus where the dominant ethnicity is Chinese was a huge culture shock. There were many international students from all parts of China as well as first, second, third and other generations of Chinese-Americans. There was even a well-represented community of mixed Chinese students like myself. Befriending, working, and spending time with these students created a greater connection between the Chinese culture of my generation and myself. We were also very involved with the Wellesley community in putting on events that would share aspects of our culture, like culture shows and cookouts.

In many respects change can be a difficult and painful experience, but the change that I experienced my first year at Wellesley matured, bettered, and strengthened me as a person. My academic pursuits were focused, my connection with my ethnicity and myself was strengthened, my dedication to music and piano was rebirth and fortified.

## The Historical Significance of Angel Island

Visiting the Angel Island Immigration Station in August, 2007 during the 49th biennial national C.A.C.A. convention was an emotionally moving experience for the delegates. We are grateful this symbolic structure survived the wildfire to remind us of our past struggles and victories and the challenging future that lies ahead. Following is an article written by Alan Wang of KGO-TV on October 13, 2008 which captures the essence of what one might experience in view of this historical landmark.



I'd like to tell you about a very profound experience I had while I was anchoring the ABC 7 eleven o'clock newscast on Sunday night. But first let me set the stage. Our mountain-top cameras, positioned around the bay, were fixated on Angel Island as a wildfire swept across its 740 acres. People, from four counties, could see it glowing in the darkness of the night, but our SKY7-HD helicopter camera was able to magnify the dramatic flames as it hovered over, what looked like, a volcano oozing lava from its peak.

I found myself explaining the historical significance of Angel Island and how the immigration station there was created to help enforce the Chinese Exclusionary Act of 1882. It was a discriminatory law that specifically barred people of Chinese decent, just like me, from entering the United States of America. Yet here I was 65 years after the law was repealed, a Chinese American, sitting at the helm of a Bay Area institution (KGO-TV).

I drive across the Bay Bridge and stare at Angel Island all the time, and quite honestly I had been unable to appreciate its symbolic nature until Sunday night. The Angel Island Immigration Station on what is now Angel Island State Park in San Francisco Bay served as the processing center for most of the 56,113 Chinese immigrants who are recorded as immigrating or returning from China; upwards of 30 percent more who showed up were returned to China.

When it opened in 1910, the new detention facility on Angel Island was considered ideal because of its isolation. There were buildings to house and care for detainees, a pier, and regular boat service to the mainland. During the next 30 years, this was the point of entry for most Chinese immigrants and approximately 175,000 came to Angel Island. The average detention was two to three weeks, but many stayed for several months and a few were forced to remain on the island for nearly two years.

Some detainees expressed their feelings in poetry that they brushed or carved onto the wooden walls of the detention center. Others simply waited, hoping for a favorable response to their appeals, but fearing deportation. Many of the poems that were carved into the walls of the center are still legible today. This was all going on while immigrants from European countries were freely pouring through Ellis Island on the East coast.

In 1943, the Chinese Exclusion Act was repealed by the Magnuson Act, allowing a national quota of 105 Chinese immigrants per year, although large scale Chinese immigration did not occur until the passage of the Immigration Act of 1965. Despite the fact that the exclusion act was repealed in 1943 the law in California stating that Chinese-Americans were not able to marry whites wasn't repealed until 1948.

Although all its constituent sections have long been repealed, Chapter 7 of Title 8 of the United States Code is headed, "Exclusion of Chinese." It is the only chapter of the 15 chapters in Title 8 (Aliens and Nationality) that is completely focused on a specific nationality or ethnic group.

In 1940, the government decided to abandon the Immigration Station on Angel Island. Ironically, their decision was hastened by a fire that destroyed the administration building in August of that year. The fire, back then, was a blessing for Chinese immigrants, but Sunday night firefighters were trying to save the immigration station that now reflects the struggles, the pain, even the joy of the Chinese American journey. Today, I have a true historic appreciation of Angel Island. It's an important part of our landscape that symbolizes the cultural fabric of who we "all" are as Bay Area citizens, and Americans. Now, I think of the Chinese-Americans who are contributing to the strength of this country, and I wonder about that many talents that were denied the right to be a part of it. These same immigration experiences are taking place today, and it makes you wonder who else is being kept from adding to the greatness of this country.

After the fast-paced, thrilling ABC 7 news coverage of the wildfire on Angel Island was over, I sat back in the anchor chair and soaked in what had just happened. It was a cathartic moment for me, and I couldn't help but wonder and hope that the ghosts of my ancestors were watching with approval.

### 2009 C.A.C.A. Basketball Season Concludes with Dragons as Back to Back Champions

The C.A.C.A. Dragons won their second consecutive C.A.C.A. Championship on March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Li Ning Sports C.A.C.A. Basketball Invitational, held at Oregon City High School.

Defeating the C.A.C.A. Jagz in the Championship game, the Dragons superior depth and lethal transition game were too much for the fatigued Jagz to overcome. The Dragons pounced early and never let its lead diminish in their quest for back to back championships.

“Going into the season, our goal was to play the right way, play hard, and play together. And winning back to back championships validates what we talked about all year. This is the hardest working team I’ve coached in 11 years,” states head coach Cyrus Lee, who recorded his 100<sup>th</sup> victory with the C.A.C.A. Dragons earlier on Sunday during the Semifinal game.

In the Semifinal game, the Dragons rallied from a 14 point first half deficit to within 2 at the half. Midway through the second half the Dragons put on a breathtaking 19-3 run over 5 minutes after the Jagz opened the second half with a 7-0 run and won 45-33 against the Jagz. The win forced a second game versus the Jagz, as the Jagz had previously been undefeated in tournament play. The Dragons lost the day before to the C.A.C.A. Ronins, who took Third Place on Sunday.

In other tournament events, the Dragons Alumni team, headed by Dennis Truong (C.A.C.A. Dragons 2001-2005) won the Alumni Tournament by defeating the Triple Threat Alumni team in a high scoring entertaining game featuring multiple dunk attempts and long range 3 point shooting.

### 2009 Li Ning Sports C.A.C.A. Basketball Invitational A Big Success

Featuring over 30 teams and 50 games, the Li Ning Sports C.A.C.A. Basketball Invitational featured two days worth of terrific competition and camaraderie at Oregon City High School. The event comprised of traditional Intercity Friendship games with Seattle Chinese Athletic Association, a double elimination tournament for the C.A.C.A. HS Boys Championship, and a C.A.C.A. Alumni Tournament. The Invitational featured Portland area teams from Harvey Scott and Beaumont Middle Schools, as well as some Independent teams.



### Aspire to inspire - Volunteers wanted

The Portland Lodge is proud to be a co-sponsor of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Youth Leadership Conference that will be held on May 1, 2009 at Portland Community College Sylvania Campus. The theme for this year's conference is **Aspire to Inspire**. Around 400 students from the high school in the greater Portland metro-areas are expected to attend. Please contact Helen Ying @ [discover2010@gmail.com](mailto:discover2010@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering for this event.



### CACA National Biennial Convention

The 50th C.A.C.A. National Biennial Convention will be held August 5th to 9th, 2009, in the City of Industry, California, at the Pacific Grove Resort Hotel. The National Convention Chair is Past Grand President Saykin Foo ([skf@pacbell.net](mailto:skf@pacbell.net)) and the Host Lodge is San Gabriel Valley Lodge, President Paul Wong ([pwong368@yahoo.com](mailto:pwong368@yahoo.com)), Host Lodge Liaison is GSGV Past President John Wong ([jw@jwcommercial.com](mailto:jw@jwcommercial.com)). The theme for the convention is "A Century Of Service For A Better Tomorrow".

### A Fun-Filled Gathering at the Chinese New Year Celebration (Cont.)

We thank all the volunteers and especially Betty Jean Lee, Stephen Ying, Helen Ying, and Diana Davis for their help with the raffle.



