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Portland C.A.C.A. Times

A Publication of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance Portland Lodge

Website: www.cacaportland.org

Winter 2010

Information:

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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.

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

- President**
Stephen Ying
- Vice President**
Dr. Cyrus Lee
- Secretary**
Betty Jean Lee
- Corresponding Secretary**
Shelley Miyahara
- Treasurer**
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Cathy Chinn
- Collector**
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- Grand Rep.**
Franklin Quan
- Legal Advisor**
Amy Richter
- Board of Directors:**
Helen L. Ying



Celebrate Chinese New Year with
Chinese American Citizens Alliance

Portland Lodge

February 22, 2010

Monday, 6:00pm



Wong's King Restaurant

8733 SE Division St.

Portland, OR



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

\$500 for a table for 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

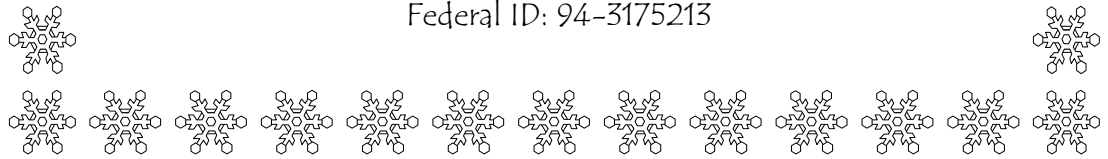
and send to: C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge

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



Inaugural Reunion for Past Scholarship and Essay Contest Winners

We held our inaugural reunion for past recipients of our scholarship and essay contest programs on December 27, 2009 at Helen and Stephen Ying’s home. While only a small group of the recipients was able to attend the inaugural reunion, it was great to reconnect with many of whom we have contact information. Everyone is either gainfully employed or making strides in their studies in college. The fields of work and study range widely including media communication, business, law, medicine, and music. Some are married and several are married with children. We are very proud of their accomplishments and look forward to having them as a part of the C.A.C.A family as we continue our efforts of leadership development, community involvement, and civil rights enhancement.



Left to Right: Richie Day (08), Shelley Miyahara, Faye Wong, Matthew Wong (05)



Left to Right: Richie Day (08), Kimberly Young (09)



Top row left to right: Alexis Reynolds, Li Aixin Jueluo-O’Hara, Corey Schmidt (99), Natalie Matthews (07), Richie Day (08), Jennifer Wang, Stephen Ying.

Bottom row left to right: Jin Soo, Shelley Miyahara, Amy, Tiffany Wang, Helen Ying.



Left to Right: Corey Schmidt (99), Natalie Matthews (07), Tiffany Wang (06), Richie Day (08)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 31, 2009

For this press release: Contact: Ed Gor, (713) 867-3988/Faye (Chinese), (415) 661-7352

Chinese American Citizens Alliance Congratulates Newly Appointed Federal Judge Dolly Gee

In a truly historic moment on Christmas Eve, the Senate confirmed the nomination of Los Angeles attorney Dolly Gee, as she is about to become the first Chinese-American woman to serve as a U.S. District Court judge. The Chinese American Citizens Alliance congratulates Dolly Gee on this long awaited and richly deserving accomplishment.

Considering the story of her roots as the daughter of immigrants from a small village in southern China, Alliance President Carolyn Hong Chan [陳湯美屏] proudly noted, "Judge Gee's family story is a common one of Chinese immigrants working hard and long to seek the best for themselves and their loved ones in reaching the American dream. Highly respected in her life work as a prominent attorney in Los Angeles, she demonstrates the perseverance and dedication that we as Chinese Americans can point to as role models for all immigrants seeking to make their contributions to our great country."

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 16, 2009

San Francisco, CA

For this press release: Contact: Ed Gor, (713) 867-3988

Faye (Chinese), (415) 661-7352

Chinese American Citizens Alliance Adopts Health Care Reform Resolution

At its December 12, 2009, national meeting in San Francisco, the Board of Grand Officers of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"Be it resolved that because of fundamental problems in the current health care system in America, including access problems, deficits in quality of medical care, and unsustainable cost increases, Chinese American Citizens Alliance endorses and supports health care reform as the best way to remedy these problems plaguing America's broken health care system."

Considering that health care touches every single American citizen of every demographic identification, Alliance President Carolyn Hong Chan [陳湯美屏] remarked, "The Alliance fully recognizes that the system of care as it has evolved today is not meeting up to the challenges of accessibility, care continuum, quality and affordability. The health care bills still being debated, are a work in progress, and must be reconciled by both Houses before a final bill to be approved by both bodies. On behalf of our members, families and communities, we intend to be part of the dialogue that produces a health care system that works best for every single American."

"The current Alliance membership reflects the general demographic of persons impacted by the state of the health care system today. We are the insured and uninsured, married and single, small and medium sized business owners and employers of private and public corporations. We are among the fully English literate and the non-English speaking and those knowledgeable about accessing health care and those with great fear in seeking needed attention. We are wealthy and poor and all in between, many highly educated and some functionally illiterate, and those who seek preventive care and those who seek only post diagnostic measures. We use Western medical diagnosis and treatment and we also consider alternative measures. It is for all these people that we must bring the stimulus for fundamental change. We are the patient, but we are also the cure for the system," emphasized Chan.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!

The 2009 donations for the gift card donated to the Asian Health & Service Center was in the amount of \$855. We purchased gift cards from Fred Meyer for AHSC to give to the needy Asian families during the holidays. Our thanks go to the following people for their generous donations: Franklin & Sharry Quan, Helen & Stephen Ying, Frank & Bonnie Lee, Fred & Jane Wong, Joyce Lijeholm, Juanita & Leonard Lee, Kent & Nancy Lee, Randy Choy, and Kim Kono, Cathy & Ed Chinn, Liz Wong, and Betty Jean Lee.

FUNDRAISER AT RACHA THAI

Join us for a delicious dining experience and raise funds for our programs at the same time!

Racha Thai & Asian Kitchen located at Clackamas Town Center will be donating 30% of your dining bill to the C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge when you present the enclosed flyer at your dining experience on Saturday, **March 27th, 2010** from 4:00 to 10:00 p.m. We appreciate their support and hope you will be able to be a part of this fundraiser. Proceeds will support our youth programs. The annual basketball tournament will be held on the same weekend at Oregon City High School, a short drive from the restaurant. It would be fun to have you there to cheer on our teams as well!

C.A.C.A. Scholarship Opportunities

Fred G. Lee Memorial Scholarship Evolves

For over 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, 2010.

This year there are several changes with the scholarship. 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 to be a member, and applications 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 State.

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 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).

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) demonstrate 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 2010.

Basketball Program to Begin New Season

Cyrus J. Lee, C.A.C.A. Basketball Program Coordinator

C.A.C.A. basketball teams have started games for the 2010 season. This season marks the program’s 36th year. The mission of the Basketball 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 the last game will be in mid-March. At the end of the regular season, the C.A.C.A. Basketball Tournament will be held at Oregon City High School on March 27 and 28. The week prior, C.A.C.A. will participate in the SCAA Al Mar Invitational, which will be held 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: Rex Wong (8th Grade Boys, Tsunami), Thomas Phuong (High School Girls, Illicit), Bryant Dong (11th/12th Grade Boys, Rebels), Stephan Tran (11th/12th Grade Boys, Hornets), Shawn Saysensesouk (11th/12th Grade Boys, Warriors. Additionally, the C.A.C.A. Dragons (two-time defending C.A.C.A. Champions) will be fielding two teams this season. 9th/10th Grade Boys coached by David Green. And 11th/12th Grade Boys coached by Cyrus Lee.

The season started off in historic fashion as the two longest running teams in the Program faced off against each other on January 16th. The 11th/12th Dragons (13th consecutive year in program) hosted the 11th/12th Rebels (14th consecutive year in program) at St. Johns Community Center. Both teams won their opening games the week before. The first half was close as the Rebels stayed with the Dragons and trailed 21-18 at the half. The Dragons then increased the defensive pressure and only allowed the Rebels to score one point in a decisive third quarter which saw the lead push out to double digits. The Dragons won 41-28 in front of a large audience of C.A.C.A. Basketball supporters.

Randall Choy and Cyrus Lee will coordinate the program for this season and continue to evaluate the program and look for opportunities to add value to all stakeholders: our coaches and other volunteers, C.A.C.A. Portland Lodge and the surrounding community, and the youth participants themselves. This is truly an exciting time to be part of the basketball program!

If you would like to participate in the program as a volunteer, or know anyone who would like to participate as a volunteer or player, 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 \$620.00), and for middle school and younger players around \$50.00. Practices start in late November.



Cyrus Lee’s Dragons draw enough players to form two teams, moving long-time assistant David Green to Head Coach of the freshman/sophomore Dragons.

The Junior/Senior Dragons lose significant players to graduation but reload as they look to become C.A.C.A. Champions for the third consecutive season.

NEWS FROM PAST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT— Ellen Wang (Class of 2008):

The first year of college was both an adventure and a juggling act. Besides adjusting to the rigorous academics, I struggled to find what clubs I should join and figure out which groups I fit into. After much trial and error, I found the West Philadelphia Tutoring Project and quickly got involved. It seemed like the perfect calling; even before I had come to Penn I was determined, in what small way I could, to help the West Philadelphia community. During my first year, I tutored a fifth grade student once a week and had the great opportunity to meet with his mother before and after each of our tutoring sessions. But while I enjoyed having a relationship with both the tutee and his parents, I tutored my student on campus and never truly got the full scope of the inner-city school dynamics. This year, I joined the project's executive board and have a much more involved role. Each board member is responsible for overseeing tutoring at one public school in the Philadelphia School District that we drive to and tutor at once a week with a group of Penn students. Just being in a West Philly school is an eye-opening experience, and you find that many stereotypes of "the ghetto" are real. Even the drive over makes you realize the magnitude of problems in urban areas such as these and the triviality of the ones present in the small and protected suburb I come from. I love being a part of this organization and look forward to three more years of being on the board.

This year, I also took a position on the Dean's Advisory Board, a group consisting of around fifteen students from the College of Arts and Sciences working towards improving areas of the College through initiatives such as developing new minors. We work closely with the dean and administration to make sure our ideas can be followed through. Because Penn is such a pre-professional school, I feel as though the College loses a bit of its identity due to its liberal arts direction. Being on the DAB gives me a voice and the ability to make changes that both my peers and I feel need to be made. Currently, I am on the committee working towards organizing a departmental research fair that will better expose the many undergraduate research opportunities offered here at Penn.

I am savoring every moment of my experience here at Penn, and I'd like to thank the CACA for its continued investment in my education. The more time I spend away from home, the more I appreciate all my sources of support.



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