



CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY

華人權益服務社

P. O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537-0001

Tel. (510) 247-6280

Web site: <http://www.cbc-sfbay.com>

e-mail: cbcservices@cbc-sfbay.com

Membership Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 6

November/December 2003

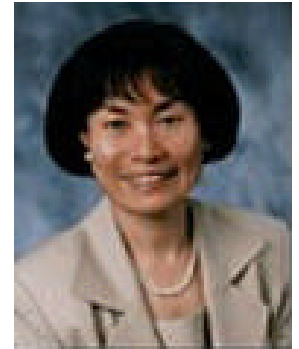


CBC Participates in Make A Difference Day

A few CBC members participated in the Make A Difference Day at various places around Fremont. Pictured above are Gordon Jang, Garrett Yee, and Eric Mah with another volunteer and city worker in the Hobo Jungle area near Stivers Lagoon. Other members worked with the city near Lake Elizabeth and a local residence that needed clean up.

President's Message

By Anna Muh



Twenty-four years ago, with two suitcases of clothes and books and 300 dollars in my pocket, I crossed the Pacific Ocean and landed in San Francisco en route to Oregon to attend graduate school at Oregon State University – Corvallis.

I knew I would not see my mom, my brothers and sister and all my friends for at least two years. I felt miserable and cried all the way from Taipei to Tokyo. I probably freaked out the guy sitting next to me big time. Then I told myself it would be okay, I would home as soon as I finished school in the United States.

As you all know, things do not always turn out as you plan. I completed my master's degree at OSU two years later on schedule and my advisor encouraged me to go further in study to get my Doctorial degree with full scholarship. It was hard to resist the offer and one most important thing happened - I met a wonderful guy and fell in love with him, who also persuaded me to stay. Now you know the rest of the story--that wonderful guy is my dear husband Richard. We have been married for 20 years with two children Victor and Jessica.

Two years into the Ph. D program at OSU, Richard got a job offer in San Jose and I found out I was pregnant. He was making a long distance

(See President's Message on Page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 3 Fremont Arts Council Photo Exhibit
- 4 Toastmasters Begins
- 4 Homeless Shelter Update
- 5 Meet New CBC Directors
- 7 2003-2004 Officers and Directors Directory
- 8 Upcoming Events

commute by flying back and forth between California and Oregon. It was just too hard for the family to maintain the long distance relationship after Victor was born in December 1983. After I had one medical emergency, I decided to give up school for the family and moved down to San Jose to join Richard. To this day my brother-in-law still asks me when will I get my Ph. D degree every time I go back to Taiwan to visit my sister.

With a master's degree in Horticulture, the only job interview I could get was with a big chemical company in Modesto in 1985. I did not even know where Modesto was at that time. Richard told me it was about two - three hours driving distance from where we lived. People who know me will know that won't work. After soul searching and a discussion with Richard, I went back to school to learn computer-programming language. It was not easy especially when you have a one year old and second one on the way. I remember vividly two weeks after Jessica was born January 1986, I went back to school to take the examine for that quarter. I was lucky and landed an entry-level job with a software company when Jessica was one. Now I am an IT director working for Sanmina-SCI, an 11 billion dollar revenue contract manufacturing company in San Jose.

Time flies when you have two young children and full time job; you barely know who you are anymore. We were worried that our children would get lost when they started school because we were not a native English speaking family. But we were wrong, they had no problem what so ever to communicate with teachers and classmates in English, and I found out the bigger problem - to maintain their Chinese proficiency. So we rushed to Berryessa Chinese school to register Victor, unfortunately or fortunately the school was full. They told us that Fremont Chinese School still had openings. We drove right over to the Fremont Chinese School (hosted at Mission San Jose High School then). This was the beginning of the next chapter of our live with Fremont.

I met a lot of wonderful people in Fremont. In the parent conference, Henry Yin the Principal of FCS was pleading for volunteers for the school. As you all know how persuasive Henry is, I raised my hand and became the secretary to the principal of the

school. Thank you Henry for introducing me to this wonderful community.

I got so involved with Fremont Chinese school; eventually my friends in Fremont talked me into moving to Fremont in January 1991. The person who influenced my thinking of reaching out from the Chinese American community to the mainstream was Carl Chen, the Fremont Chinese School Principal after Henry. We realize we couldn't isolate ourselves from the community at large. We needed to reach out, we needed to open to the community and we needed the community to be open to accept us as part of the community. We needed to bring the Mandarin class not only to our kids but to all the kids in the City who desired to learn the Chinese cultural and language. With the help of Palo Alto Chinese School, we developed the curriculum for the students who took the weekend Chinese Language class to be recognized by the school district since the District did not have the capacity to open the classes on their own. The classes were so popular, eventually our District started to offer Chinese language program in high schools themselves.

The Chinese school grew so fast, we soon reached our limit of 1000 students. We worked together with Newark school district and opened the Tri-City Chinese school to accommodate the growth. Now we have at least six or seven Chinese schools in Fremont and tri-city area. Henry on the other hand after retired from Chinese School. He and other visionary members started the CBC organization in 1992, with the vision to be a model of excellence in community services by facilitating and motivating Chinese American involvement in the community. CBC has serves the young through the toastmaster leadership program, internship program and the older generation through the senior program as well as anyone in between. We also participate the homeless shelter, the SAVE, the FEF, Ohlone College Foundation, Washington Hospital Foundation program. We supported the FUSD School Bond, the College bond, and the Fremont safety measure. CBC has produced three fine products that include

(Continued on page 6)



Fremont Cultural Arts Council Juried Photo Exhibit

By Angela Yang

Fremont's tenth annual juried photography exhibit is held during the month of November in the Fremont Main Library. This is a major cultural event in our beloved city. Many CBC members are active contributors and participants in this successful event.

CBC Board member Simon Chen is the Exhibit Chairman this year. Simon, the well-organized leader, planned and coordinated the contest, the reception and the implementation of the Exhibit. A couple of months before the event, he met with Angela Yang, the Manager of Fremont Libraries and CBC Board member, to find more creative ways to utilize the library space for a more attractive and effective display of the photos.

The Fremont Cultural Arts Council was formed in 1970. The purpose of FCAC is to coordinate and promote cultural arts activities in the City of Fremont, to serve as a collective voice in matters of public policy affecting the cultural arts, to research grants available for the arts and disseminate this information to the community, to promote the public image of Fremont as a balanced community, and to support the cultural arts.

This exhibit is opened to photographers who live in the city of Fremont, or who are members of a Fremont photographic club. 200 photographs were submitted this year. The three judges (James Toland, Eleanor Webster and Tara Gill) selected 102 entries from 55 photographers for this exhibit. The topics of these artistic and

stunningly beautiful photographs include abstract to realistic presentation of life. Viewers can find joy and inspiration in the black and white or the colorful portrait of landscape, flowers, birds and mammals, architecture, and people. Many of these photos open a door to the rediscovery of the beauty of our area.

In addition to the work of Simon and Angela, CBC President Anna Muh helped with registration at the reception on Friday evening. Board members Steve Cho, Garrett Yee helped with the physical hanging of the photos early Saturday morning. Gilbert and Michael Yee were great helpers in the photo hanging also, a great indication of youth involvement of CBC.

If you haven't seen this beautiful exhibit, please stop by the Fremont Main Library at 2400 Stevenson Blvd. The exhibit ends on November 27, 2003.

IT'S CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME!

By Amy Cho

Soon the holidays will be here! This year, the South Bay Chinese Club and Citizens for Better Community will again hold a joint Christmas Party in the afternoon from 2:00 - 4:30pm on Saturday, December 6. As many will remember, we all had a fantastic time at Aegis Gardens retirement home last year. It was fun for our members and it was also a great event for the seniors who live there.

So please plan to come and put your holiday rushing on hold for just a little while. The address is Aegis Gardens, 36281 Fremont Blvd (across from American High School). In order to defray expenses, there is a charge of \$5/adult or child over age 12. Also, we will collect canned food from anyone who wishes to donate. This food will be taken to the Tri-City Homeless Center. Let's remember Christmas is a time for giving!

Please RSVP by November 29, 2003 to Aliene Yee, 657-7972 or Bernadette Chinn, 790-3944.

Would You Like to Overcome the Fear of Public Speaking?

By Chia-Chee Chan, Membership Chair

I am excited to tell you about a new CBC membership benefit -- the ability to *communicate clearly, inspire any audience and learn a new leadership skill*. You are invited to the charter meeting of a new Toastmasters club on Saturday, December 6, 2003, from 10 to 11am, at the Fremont main library at 2400 Stevenson Blvd.

Please contact our membership director Chia-Chee Chan by Nov 30th. You can reach her at 510.710.0820 (cell) or email at chiacheec@yahoo.com. To learn more about Toastmasters, please visit www.toastmasters.org Membership limited to the first thirty-five (35) people who attend and join the newly forming Toastmasters Club.

CBC BCB (Breakfast Club for Business)

Here is something fun... If you happen to be free on the 3rd Friday of the month, join us for breakfast. Although we call it the Breakfast Club for Business, it is really just an informal way to get together. Some times there are just 4-5 of us, and some times there are more.

Place: Cabrillo Café

When: 3rd Friday of each Month (8-9:30 am)

Contact: Thomas Tang (510) 713-2388

American Cancer Society Event

By Albert Wang, M.D.

The Chinese Cancer Memorial Foundation (CCMF) announces an upcoming charity concert featuring superstar singer Tsai Chin from Taiwan to be held on 5/1/04 and 5/2/04 at the Flint Center in Cupertino. Proceeds will benefit American Cancer Society, Northern California Chinese Unit, the Asian Liver Center at Stanford, and the CCMF. Tickets are on pre-sale reservation right now, at \$100, \$80, \$60 and \$40. You may also be a sponsor at \$2500 and receive 10 VIP tickets and invitation for 2 to the post-show reception with Tsai Chin and her band members. The earlier you reserve tickets, the better the seats will be. Please contact Ellie Liu, 510-676-6321 or Selena Shan, 925-938-4215 for ticket purchases.

Homeless Shelter Update

By Allen Wang

This time the people who spend their Sunday afternoon in the homeless shelter volunteering are Allen Wang, Jonathan Yung, Ben Chang, Victor Lee, Christopher Yang, Gilbert Yee, Shih-Fu Huang, and Pai-Yu Shih. We must congratulate them for their time spent in helping people in much more need than themselves. They were allowed to cook dinner, which was chicken, vegetables, and fried rice, for the homeless people. Without their help we would never have been able to finish. The chicken was served with soy sauce, green onions, and some ginger. The vegetables had steamed cabbage with bacon bits all over it. We became most satisfied when the homeless people told us that they enjoyed the food.

Serving Meals at the Homeless Shelter

If you have not had an opportunity to do so, you should consider volunteering some time at the Tri-City Home Shelter at Sunrise Village. This is open to anyone interested in helping. If you feel inclined, please contact Margaret Wang and let her know you want to help. Pictured below is the youth group that served dinner a few months back.

Place: Sunrise Village

When: Sunday, November 30, 2003

Saturday, January 31, 2004

Contact: Margaret Wang (510) 252-1926

For information about the Tri-City Homeless Coalition, visit their website at <http://www.tricityhomeless.org> or call 510-657-7409, or e-mail: info@tricityhomeless.org.



Introducing new CBC Directors



Aaron Wong is a native of San Francisco. He served with the U.S. Army in Vietnam after college, and became a teacher in a technical high school after returning, which led to a career in computer systems management. He retired after a career with Syntex Laboratories/Roche Pharmaceuticals and Adobe Systems. He just recently completed two years as president of the South Bay Chinese Club and is the current Vice President of the Alameda County Library Foundation.

Aaron is married to Maelene Wong, who taught at Ohlone College before retiring, and they have two grown children, Geoffrey, a finance controller with Gallo Wine, and Trisha, a resident pediatrician at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

Robert Danko, D.C. joined the CBC in Spring 2002. Since joining CBC, he has been active in helping at such events as the annual Fremont 4th of July parade, serve the homeless, Spring Celebration, and Fremont Art and Wine Festival.



A former Toastmaster, Fremont Chamber member, and Women's Cancer resource member, Robert enjoys meeting and helping people from all walks of life. Hobbies include reading, classical music, and martial arts. Robert grew up in New Jersey, graduating with a bachelor's degree in biology from Rutgers and receiving a doctorate in chiropractic from Palmer-West in California. He currently resides in Fremont and practices in the tri-city area and south city.

Amy Cho is an American born Chinese. Until moving to Fremont in 1974, Amy lived in Madison WI, Wilmington DE, Pittsburgh PA, Durham NC and St. Louis MO. Amy is currently employed by Henkel Corporation as IT Manager. She is currently also the secretary for South Bay Chinese Club, member of the Fremont Police Citizen's Advisory Board and involved in Fremont's Neighborhood Network program.



Amy is married to Steve Cho, computer systems analyst and Fremont Councilmember. She became "sedentary" in Fremont after meeting Steve at Washington University in St. Louis. Amy and Steve have one daughter, Beverly, who is graduating from UC Berkeley with her B.S. degree in Chemistry.

In her spare time, Amy "walks around with her neighbors and tracks the whereabouts of her runaround husband".

Josephine Chou joined CBC a few years ago and has been a very active member the whole time. She has been a strong supporter of events and is a welcome new addition to the CBC Board of Directors.



Josephine retired after 15 years working for SONY Electric Inc. in the Accounting and Financial Information System area. Now days, Josephine spends her time supporting organizations that interest her, such as CBC. She is serves as the Executive Director of Friends of Children with Special Needs, a non-profit organization, and teaches part time in an after school learning center.

Prior to moving to Fremont ten years ago, Josephine and her family were long time residents of New Jersey. She has three daughters that live across the United States.

myself, the first Elected Chinese American Fremont City official serving on the Fremont Unified School District from 1998 – 2002. Our best, City Councilmember Steve Cho, and our most promising young College Board Member Garrett Yee. Not bad for an organization that started from ground zero to have such a good results in 12 years. Very special thanks to two very special Doctors – Dr. Albert Wang and Dr. Herbert Chiu, your belief in community involvement, your persistence and hard work produced the very desirable results.

There is always a special place in my heart for where I came from – a Chinese ethnic heritage. I think Churchill said “home is where you hang your hat,” and since I don't usually wear a hat I would say home is where your heart is. My heart is here in Fremont with my family and each one of you - my friend. I want to thank all non Chinese Americans who support the CBC for your open mind and open heart to embrace the diversity, to take the advantage of the rich Chinese Cultural and heritage that we will share with you. I want to thank all Chinese Americans who participate in the community services; you are setting the example and model for our young generation to follow. Together we will make a difference in everyone's life and make our community a better place to live.

I want to thank Garret for his leadership in the past two years. Garrett, you have bigger feet than I, so it will be a tougher job for me to fit into your big shoes, but I promise I will do my best. I believe with all board of directors and all members' support we will continue to grow and be able to serve more people in our community.

Thank you again honorable guests, board of directors, CBC members and all my friends for coming today, your presence encourages CBC and me, we know we are on the right track to better serve our organization and our community.

Respectfully,

Anna Muh
President

CBC Advisory Committee

In November CBC established an Advisory Committee with the following initial members. If you would like to nominate someone to serve on this committee, please contact the Advisory Committee Chair, Carl Chen.

Carl Chen, Chair
Adam Chou
Chi Choy
Cindy Lee
Tony Luh
Ting O'Connor
Michelle Royston
Tim Tam
Joan Wang
Patrick Wong
Stanley Woo

Membership Dues Due

It is that time of year again...

The new membership year began on November 1, 2003. If you have not paid your membership dues in the last few months, please complete the membership for and send in your dues. Better yet, become a lifetime member and never worry about your annual dues. Your dues help to pay for our CBC newsletter. Thanks in advance for your support!

CBC Membership Newsletter

The CBC membership newsletter is published bi-monthly. We welcome your questions, comments and feedback. You may send them to Citizens for Better Community, P.O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537, or you may contact Teresa Yin Wong, Executive Director, at 510-793-6302, or email dryin@yahoo.com.

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Editor | Garrett Yee |
| Youth Editor | Concord Cheung |
| Distribution | Lilly Lee |

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Contributors | Allen Wang (Youth Writer) |
| | Angela Yang |
| | Chia-Chee Chan |
| | Amy Cho |
| | Albert Wang, M.D. |

2003-2004 Directory

President:

Anna Muh.....(510) 226-8678

Vice President:

Thomas Tang.....(510) 353-0507

Secretary:

Amy Cho.....(510) 797-6426

Treasurer:

Gordon Jang.....(510) 790-0740

Past President:

Garrett Yee.....(510) 790-0865

Executive Director:

Teresa Yin Wong.....(510) 793-6302

Youth Group:

Eunice Ko.....(510) 657-0136

Senior Liaison:

Whisky Ho.....(510) 623-7636

Culture Exchange:

Elise Jan.....(510) 659-9348

Membership:

Chia-Chee Chan.....(510) 710-0820

Website:

Carl Chen.....(510) 490-8118

Voter Registration:

Daphne Yang.....(510) 651-6472

Committees

Education:

Anna Muh.....(510) 226-8678

Health:

Herbert Chiu.....(510) 490-8649

Business:

Henry Yin.....(510) 657-1235

Community Involvement:

Albert Wang.....(510) 657-6610

Board of Directors

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Cecilia Chang | Chia-Chee Chan | Carl Chen |
| Simon Chen | Hebert Chiu | Steve Cho |
| Chi Choy | Whiskey Ho | Tom Hom |
| Karen Chen | Robert Danko | Josephine Chou |
| Albert Wang | Elise Jan | Aaron Wong |
| Angela Yang | Henry Yin | Daphne Yang |
| Teresa Yin Wong | Loretta Yu | Lena Zee |

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

If you like what you see in this newsletter and want to remain informed, please join CBC. Please check one of the following and include a check payable to *CBC* and send to: *CBC, Membership, P. O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537-0001*

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 Individual | <input type="checkbox"/> New |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family | <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Corporate/Organization | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Individual: Life Membership | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$200 Family: Life Membership | |

Please complete the following member(s) (contact person) information:

Member: _____

| | | |
|-----------|------------|--------------|
| Last Name | First Name | Chinese Name |
|-----------|------------|--------------|

Spouse: _____

| | | |
|-----------|------------|--------------|
| Last Name | First Name | Chinese Name |
|-----------|------------|--------------|

Address: _____

| | | | |
|--------|------|-------|-----|
| Street | City | State | Zip |
|--------|------|-------|-----|

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|--------|
| Home Phone # | Office Phone # | e-mail |
|--------------|----------------|--------|

Please check here if you don't want to publish your phone # and address in our membership roster.

Citizens for Better Community

P.O. Box 1
Fremont, CA 94537-0001
Tel. (510) 247-6280
e-mail: cbcservices@cbc-sfbay.com
Web site: <http://www.cbc-sfbay.com>

PRSR T STD
U S P O S T A G E
P A I D
F R E M O N T C A
P E R M I T N O . 1 7

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321



"To initiate, sponsor and promote community events, which will affect the well being of Chinese Americans with an emphasis on education, health, business and community involvement."

Calendar of Events

Niles Festival of Lights

Place: Niles Blvd, Fremont
When: Friday, November 28, 2003
Contact: Thomas Tang (510) 713-2388

Serving Meals at the Homeless Shelter

Place: Sunrise Village
When: Sunday, November 30, 2003
Contact: Margaret Wang (510) 252-1926

CBC Toastmasters Kick Off

Place: Fremont Main Library
When: Saturday, December 6, 2003 (10-11 am)
Contact: Chia Chee Chan (510) 710-0820

CBC/SBCC Christmas Party

Place: Aegis Gardens
When: Saturday, December 6, 2003 (2-5 pm)
Contact: Amy Cho (510) 797-6426

CBC Breakfast Club for Business (BCB)

Place: Cabrillo Park Café (4673 Thornton Ave)
When: Friday, December 19th (8-9:30 am)
Contact: Thomas Tang (510) 713-2388

Next CBC Meetings

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 3, 2003
Place: Carlton Plaza- 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 7, 2004
Place: Carlton Plaza- 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2004
Place: Carlton Plaza- 7:30 pm

SAVE THE DATE!

**CBC SPRING
CELEBRATION**

Saturday, April 24, 2004