



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 1, Issue 5

October/November/December 2001

CBC Celebrates Mid-Autumn Moon Festival at Fremont Main

By Ada Chang (Youth Writer)

On September 29, 2001, CBC held a Chinese Moon Festival celebration at the Fremont library. There were many entertaining things for both adults and children such as story-telling, Chinese dancing, face painting, crafts, displays, and even free Hepatitis B screenings. Children especially enjoyed making arts and crafts with

(See Moon Festival on Page 2)



President's Message

(Garrett addresses
Youth Toastmasters
Graduation)

By Garrett Yee



Every day since September 11th I have thought of the terrible events that occurred. I am sure this is true for all of us. During this trying time, we have seen actions by individuals that bring us hope in the goodness of people. To name a few, there are many heroes that have emerged, despite the economic turn-down we have seen generous donations, we see American flags on more houses, and we have seen organizations reaching out beyond their own community and defining community in the largest context of the United States. What may have taken many years of effort to bring this nation together has occurred in just a few weeks. I have hope for our future.

As an officer in the United States Army Reserve, the reality of what has happened hits home just a bit closer. Although at this time I have not been called to duty, it is something that I am ready and willing to do. America is a great nation and we want to keep it that way. In the meantime, while our soldiers both home and abroad are in harms way, we must give them and their families the support they deserve as they continue to fight for our freedoms. We can do this simply by wearing a lapel pin of a flag or by displaying the United States flag in the front of our homes.

At the same time that we take precautions against future attacks, we must not be quick to rush to judgment of others based on appearance. As an ethnic group, we are already sensitive to racial profiling and I caution our members about the dangers of doing so. As you have read and seen in the news, Fremont is home to one of the largest Afghani communities in the bay area. During the last election cycle, many in this community came out to support us. To this end, some

(See President's Message on Page 2)

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of us have already met with a few representatives of the local community to offer our moral support.

As each of us works through what happened on September 11th and ensuing events, we need to continue to live in a positive manner moving forward. No doubt, this will go on for some time with no quick end in sight; however, we cannot let this tragedy get the best of us. Can each of us make a difference? Yes.

As we sit down to Thanksgiving and holiday gatherings, I want to wish everyone a wonderful holiday season.

Respectfully submitted,

GARRETT S. YEE

President



(Toastmasters Instructor Rosa Chang presents Toastmasters Completion Certificate to CBC President's son, Gilbert Yee.)

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 510-796-5555, or email ptywong@home.com.

President	Garrett Yee
Assistant Editor	Ping Gan
Distribution	Lily Lee
Youth Writers	Stephanie Gan
	Ada Chang
	Concord Cheung
	Vivian Lin

red envelopes and the face painting; adults seemed to be especially interested in the Chinese dancing. The whole celebration began with a few words from our current CBC president, Garrett Yee, and a moment of silence for those who lost their lives on September 11th. Afterwards, the coordinator of this event, Anna Muh, made a few announcements and then the celebration began! First came the story telling, there were stories about the Chinese Moon fairy, the impatient woodcutter, and the hidden messages in moon cakes. The storytellers were Ingrid Chen, Brian Toy, and Ada Chang. After the story telling came the wonderful Chinese dances performed by students from the Academy of Chinese Performing Arts. When the last dance was over, a few words were spoken and then everyone got up, and went to eat some delicious moon cakes! As a whole, the celebration was both educational and fun for people of all ages (see related article on page 5).



(Loretta Yu, Herb Chiu, & Anna Muh at Moon Festival)

9-11 Memorial Event Held in SF

by Rosanna Gan (Youth Writer)

On Saturday, September 29th, CBC participated in a bay area-wide 9-11 relief effort sponsored by the World Journal Chinese Newspaper. CBC was one of over 40 Chinese American organizations that came together following the events of September 11th to help organize the event. In addition to helping to fund and support this event, CBC volunteers assembled 1000 hand-held United States flags to give out to the participants. San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and Supervisor Leland Yee held a press conference at City Hall to promote this event. The event was a success not only in terms of helping to raise funds; it was also a success in unifying the participating organizations for a common cause.

S.B. Woo Visit to Bay Area

On September 17, S.B. Woo met with members of Citizens for Better Community to discuss the direction of 80/20, which is a nation-wide organization. Although CBC is not officially affiliated to 80/20, S. B. Woo, the former lieutenant governor for Delaware, was interested in meeting with representatives of CBC to discuss 80/20's future plans. CBC members present for the meeting included Garrett Yee (President), Joan Wang (VP), and Albert Wang (Community Involvement Chair).

Ohlone College Bond Update

On September 19th, Ohlone College President Dr. Floyd Hogue met with CBC members at the house of Henry Yin. Dr. Hogue presented members with an overview of what the Ohlone College Board of Trustees will be voting on later in the month of November. Essentially, there will be a proposal to construct a new facility in Newark as well as to construct student support facilities on the existing Fremont campus. Approximately 55% of the students that currently attend the Newark site are from Fremont. The Ohlone Trustees have been meeting regularly to discuss the bond issues, with many of the pieces coming together.

Fremont Unified School Bond

The Fremont Unified School District is in the process of exploring the possibility of placing a school bond on the March 2002 ballot. At the November 7th CBC Board Meeting, Board Members were provided an update on the status of the Fremont Unified School District Bond.

Matt Fong Speaks to CBC

On Monday, November 12, Veteran's Day, Oakland City Councilmember Danny Wan held an event with Matt Fong, former State Treasurer, as the keynote speaker. The event was hosted by CBC members James and Sharon Tom in Fremont. In addition to being Chairman of the Federal Pension Benefits Guaranty Corporation Advisory Committee, Matt Fong is also a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force Reserve and Air Force Academy Graduate. Appropriately, Matt Fong lead a discussion about American National Security and Economy appropriately on this Veteran's Day.



(9-11 Costume Party members gather below the IDEA Band sign)

9-11 Fundraiser Big Success

On Friday, November 2nd, Citizens for Better Community and the IDEA Band hosted a 9-11 benefit costume dance event to raise money for victims of the September 11th tragedy. The Chinese American Disaster Relief Coalition - Silicon Valley (CADRC-SV), led by Mr. Timothy Wu, matched dollar for dollar proceeds raised from this event. Including the matching funds, the total donated from this event reached \$10,000.

Following the successful event, the funds were presented to Fremont Fire Chief Dan Lydon at the Council Chambers on Tuesday, November 6th.

According to CBC President Garrett Yee, this is a great opportunity for us to give to the community in a larger context. Most of the time, we tend to think of our community as the city in which we live. If there is any silver lining on this cloud, it is that this disaster has forced us to look beyond the boundaries of our cities to see that we are part of a larger community we call the United States. The matching donation by the CADRC-SV has been a great opportunity for CBC to work with another wonderful local charitable organization. This is not something CBC sought out, but came about as a result of the goodness of their organization. We are very pleased to be able have this opportunity.

The event featured popular dance music from the 70's, 80's and 90's performed by the Idea Band. The band members decided to co-host the event with CBC and dedicate this year's event to the 911 victims families. Former Miss. Chinatown USA, Karen Chen, co-emceed the event. Major sponsors for this event included Café Ophelia, Chinese Cultural and Service Center in Sunnyvale, World Journal Bookstore, Evergreen Bookstore, and the World Journal Chinese Newspaper.

CBC Youth Leadership Program Graduates New Toastmasters

Citizens for Better Community congratulates the following CBC Youth Leadership and Toastmasters Program graduates!

Ada Chang	Milpitas High
William Chang	Mission San Jose High
Ingrid Chen	James Logan High
Hank Cheng	Hopkins Jr. High
Diana Chien	Irvington High
Eric Ching	Hopkins Jr. High
Johanna Gan	Hopkins Jr. High
Stephanie Gan	Mission San Jose High
Peggy Huang	Hopkins Jr. High
Victoria Jang	Hopkins Jr. High
Haley Ko	Mission San Jose High
Vincent Lee	Hopkins Jr. High
Tina Lin	James Logan High
Vivian Lin	American High
Brian Toy	Mission San Jose High
Albert Wang	Horner Jr. High
Alice Wang	Hopkins Jr. High
Eugene Wang	American High
Tina Wang	Hopkins Jr. High
Louise Wu	Mission San Jose High
Gilbert Yee	Washington High
Bonnie Yu	Hopkins Jr. High
Carrie Yu	Mission San Jose High
Kate Yu	Hopkins Jr. High
Mandy Yu	Mission San Jose High

These students spent 8 consecutive Saturday mornings during the summer preparing for future public service by improving their public speaking skills. We would like to recognize the efforts of Rosa Chang and the F.U.N. Toastmasters Club for helping to teach and sponsor this great program. Rosa has been the primary instructor for the past five years. CBC volunteers that helped to support this program were Loretta Yu, CBC Toastmasters Coordinator, and Joan Wang, CBC VP.



(The graduating CBC Youth Toastmasters class.)

Culture Exchange Performs for Newark Days

By Vivian Lin
(Youth Writer)

On Saturday, September 22nd, CBC's Culture Exchange Group performed at the Annual Newark Days event held at the Newark Community Center. For their performance, CBC was recognized by the City of Newark. As always, CBC's Culture Exchange Group does a great job sharing the Chinese culture through dance and music. Elise Jan, who leads the Culture Exchange Group, is a CBC director and teacher at the Fremont Chinese School.

Hepatitis B Screening a Success

On September 29th, CBC joined forces with the Asian Liver Center at Stanford University as a community partner to promote the hepatitis B awareness and screening program sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline pharmaceutical company. This event was coordinated through Dr. David Derr. CBC conducted Hepatitis B screening the Fremont Main Library and continues to provide screening information to the Chinese American community. To date, CBC has helped provide screening of just under 100 individuals. A large part of this success is due to the efforts of CBC members Dr. John Doung and Lena Zee.

Homeless Shelter Update

Serving Lunch

by Concord Cheung
(Youth Writer)

September 29 was like any other hot day in fall. The parking lot cement reflected much of this heat, making the environment a bit comfortable. But upon entering the Tri-Cities Homeless Shelter, the group of CBC members found no respite from the heat. For upon entering, the volunteers had to quickly take their positions and set forth preparing lunch for the many people living in the building.

The small group of volunteers proceeded to prepare the barbecue chicken, the homemade salad, the fried rice, and the cookies for dessert. All this took a little over an hour, and would have taken longer in less crafty hands. The following day on September 30th, CBC volunteers turned around and served dinner at the shelter. In the end, dedicated CBC volunteers, but adult and youth, continue to help serve those in need.

The next date to serve at the homeless shelter is December 30. Anyone interested should contact Margaret Wang at (510) 252-1926.

CBC Tax Seminar Held for Members

On Saturday, September 22nd, CBC held a tax seminar for CBC members. The event was co-sponsored by Merrill Lynch and CBC. Thomas Tang, CPA and Merrill Lynch representatives discussed the recent tax changes. The event was well attended.

Washington Hospital Fundraiser

Event Lots of Fun

On October 6, 2001, CBC members attended and supported the annual Washington Hospital Foundation Fundraiser. In support of this event, which was held at the Fremont Marriott, CBC members filled more than a table of attendees. This proved to be a fun-filled evening with the proceeds going to a great cause.

Fremont Leadership Forum held at Washington High School

On Saturday, October 13th, several CBC members participated in Fremont's first Leadership Forum held at Washington High School. The event featured seminars and workshops on how to strengthen our communities and helping the City become a place where residents know each other better. This event was part of the Community Building and Engagement Initiative adopted by the Fremont City Council in June 2001.

Ohlone College Luncheon

On October 26th, CBC members attended and supported the Ohlone College Foundation Luncheon held at the Newark Hilton. This year, the Foundation recognized Lillian Hack, who recently retired from Fremont Bank at the Community Development Manager. Lillian has been a great contributor to our community. CBC Business Chair Henry Yin spoke on behalf of Lillian for the great work she had done for our community.



(CBC & CADRC-SV present \$10,000 to Fire Chief Dan Lydon in City Council Chambers for the 9-11 Relief Fund.)

Fremont to celebrate lunar curiosities Saturday's festival a slice of East Asia*--September 28, 2001

By Jennifer Carnig, STAFF WRITER

FREMONT--FOR more than 1,000 years, East Asian people all over the world have celebrated the Autumn Moon Festival. On Saturday, for the first time, that celebration is coming to Fremont.

"It's a beautiful tradition that we wanted to share with the younger generation here in town," organizer Garrett Yee said. "Until now, it's only been celebrated (in the United States) in the bigger cities like San Francisco. But we wanted the children here to get to experience the fun, too." Yee's group, Citizens for Better Community, a local Chinese-American community group, is teaming up with the Fremont Main Library to host the event. It is geared toward children, and is open to people from all cultural backgrounds and traditions. "That part is really important to us," Yee said. "We think it could be a wonderful way for kids to have fun with each other and learn about each other and, while they're at it, learn a little bit about Chinese culture, too."

Intended to celebrate the "glories and mysteries" of the moon, the Autumn Moon Festival is an ancient tradition that originated in East Asia. In Asian mythology, there is a strong relationship between the moon and water, and the moon was said to regulate river flow and ocean tides. It was believed that the moon made the soil fertile and the harvest bountiful. As a result, the festival is celebrated when the moon is at its fullest -- during the autumnal equinox in October. To give thanks and praise to the moon, the holiday was traditionally marked with offerings to the moon goddess. Altars were filled with fruit, flowers, candles and mooncakes -- round pastries filled with sweet bean paste.

Citizens for Better Community is updating the tradition by commemorating it with stories of how the holiday originated, face painting and performances of five Chinese folk and tap dances, Yee said. The Academy of Chinese Performing Arts is performing the dances, led by David Chen, a nationally known dancer and choreographer in China who now lives in Fremont. "Through the dances and the stories, I think the kids should really leave having learned a few things," Yee said. "This should be a great way, and a fun way, for children from all backgrounds and traditions to learn a little bit about why Asian Americans celebrate this holiday today."

*Reprinted by permission from the Argus.

Spotlight on
Board Member
Herbert Chiu,
D.D. S. Health
Committee
Chair



By Stephanie Gan
(Youth Writer)

Dr. Herbert Chiu is what most people would describe as an active, community-oriented man. When Herbert and his wife Anita got together for dinner with a small group of friends in 1992, they decided that it was time for the growing population of Bay Area Asians to have their own community service organization.

Since then, Herbert has served as the president of CBC twice (1992-1993, 1989-1999), and has been chairman for the annual Spring Celebration fundraising event from 1992 to 1997. In addition, he is a board member of several major community-involvement organizations, including the American Cancer Society, the Mission San Jose Chamber of Commerce, and the Ohlone College Foundation, as well as the co-founder of the Asian American Donor Program.

Herbert was born and raised in Shanghai, China but immigrated to the United States in 1974 pursuing a higher education. He graduated from Oregon State University with a pharmaceutical degree, but later majored in dentistry at the University of the Pacific. Herbert has been a resident of Fremont since 1979 and is a dentist and president of Mission Palm Dental in Fremont, and the Decoto Family Dentistry in Union City. Herbert and Anita, have one daughter Erica, and one son, Phillip.

One thing that many do not know about Herbert is that he is the lead drummer with the Idea Band, which performed to a sold out crowd at the 9-11 Costume Party Fundraiser on November 2, 2001. It can be said that Dr. Chiu is a man of many talents.

When asked what message he would like to give to the Bay Area youth, Herbert said that while he considers it important to excel in academics, he also encourages young people to "get involved" in as many areas as they can, "including community service, art, music, and sports..." Overall, Dr. Chiu stressed the benefits of having a balanced and well-rounded lifestyle, as this builds the foundation for a promising future.

Sandi
Pantages
honored for
Service



(Sandi Pantages
receives recognition
at Board Meeting)

At the monthly CBC Board Meeting in November, former Fremont Libraries Manger Sandi Pantages received recognition for her dedicated service to the community. Prior to retiring from the Fremont Libraries in July 2001, Sandi had worked in the library profession for over 30 years. Sandi is very active in the community serving on a number of committees and with several organizations. Sandi has been a friend to the Chinese community and had been instrumental in bring Chinese programs and materials to the Fremont Libraries.

Cho Honored in Oakland by Asian
Community Mental Health Services
in Oakland

ACMHS' Celebration of Asian Voices October 4th, 2001 sponsored by Pacific Bell was a great success with special guest Oakland Mayor Jerry Brown giving opening remarks and U.S. Civil Rights Commissioner Yvonne Lee giving the Keynote address. Emcee Sydnie Kohara added polish to the program honoring Judge Ken Kawaichi, Assemblymember Wilma Chan, Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker, and Coucilmembers Henry Chang, Danny Wan, and Steve Cho. For details and information on the Asian Community Mental Health Services, visit the ACHMS website at www.acmhs.org.

CBC Celebrates its 10th Anniversary
at the Spring Celebration Set for
Saturday, April 20, 2002

Mark your calendars for the biggest celebration yet! CBC will celebrate its 10th year of existence at the annual Spring Celebration set for April 20, 2002. This year, the Event Co-Chairs will be Chi Choy and Teresa Yin Wong. Last year's event sold out and this year promises to be no different. The 2002 Spring Celebration will be held at the Fremont Marriott with plenty of entertainment on tap. One thing that CBC does well is have a good time. At this event, CBC will recognize the CBC Volunteer of the Year and the CBC Citizen of the Year. Don't miss it!

2001-2002 Directory

President:

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

Vice President:

Joan Wang.....(510) 490-8689

Secretary:

Karen Chen.....(650) 934-5245

Treasurer:

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

Past President:

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

Executive Director:

Teresa Yin Wong.....(510) 796-5555

Youth Group:

Joan Wang.....(510) 490-8689

Senior Group Liaison:

Tim Tam.....(510) 796-0962

Culture Exchange:

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

Annual Spring Celebration:

Chi Choy.....(510) 659-0400

Website:

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

Membership/Voter Registration:

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

Committees

Education:

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

Health:

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

Business:

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

Community Involvement:

Albert Wang.....(510) 226-1239

Board of Directors

Cecilia Chang	Carl Chen	Simon Chen
Hebert Chiu	Steve Cho	Chi Choy
Whiskey Ho	Tom Hom	Elise Jan
Anna Muh	Ting O'Conner	Michelle Royston
Simon Szeto	Timothy Tam	Thomas Tang
Albert Wang	Patrick Wong	Daphne Yang
Henry Yin	Teresa Yin Wong	

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

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*

- \$10 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$50 Corporate/Organization
- \$100 Individual: Life Membership
- \$200 Family: Life Membership

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

Member:

Last Name	First Name	Chinese Name
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Spouse:

Last Name	First Name	Chinese Name
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Address:

Street	City	State	Zip
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Home Phone #	Office Phone #	e-mail
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- 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>

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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 Main Street
When: Friday, November 23rd (6:00 pm rain or moon)
Contact: Ting O'Conner 510-780-9868

CBC & South Bay Chinese Club Holiday Party

Place: Aegis Gardens Retirement Community
36281 Fremont Blvd
When: Saturday, December 15, 2001 (2 p.m.)
Contact: Joan Wang: 510-490-8689
Tom Hom: 408-941-0429

Serving Dinner at the Homeless Shelter

Place: Tri-City Homeless Shelter
When: December 30, 2001
Contact: Margaret Wang 510-252-1926

Tri-City Chinese American Community Forum

Place: Henry Yin's House
When: Saturday, January 26, 2002
Contact: Henry Yin 510-657-1235

3rd Annual CBC/SBCC Chinese New Year Celebration

Place: Fremont Main Library
When: Saturday, February 16, 2002
Contact: Elise Jan 510-659-9348

Dragon Boat Racing

Place: Lake Del Valle Reservoir, Livermore
When: March, date TBD
Contact: Teresa Yin Wong 510-440-8831

10th Annual Spring Celebration! (Save the Date!)

Place: Fremont Marriott
When: Saturday, April 20, 2002
Contact: Chi Choy 510-790-2969
Teresa Yin Wong 510-440-8831

Next CBC Meetings

CBC Mid-Term Meeting

Thursday, November 29, 2001
Place: Aegis Gardens – 7:30

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 5, 2001
Place: Henry Yin's – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 9, 2002
Place: Henry Yin's – 7:30 pm