



CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY

華人權益服務社

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

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

Membership Newsletter

Volume 5, Issue 5

September/October/November 2005



Thomas Tang recently visited Lieutenant Colonel Garrett Yee in Fort Bliss, Texas. See page 4 for an update on how Garrett is doing.

President's Message

By Thomas Tang



Dear CBC members and Friends,

CBC's fiscal year runs from November 1 to October 31 and the terms of its directors and officers follow the fiscal year. I cannot believe that I have been CBC's president for the past year. Time really flies! This is my last president's message.

The most important thing to the CBC organization is the continuous involvement and participation of the Board members and their willingness to take the responsibility to help the organization grow. Our V.P., Josephine Chou, has accepted the President position for the coming membership year (November 2005 – October 2006) along with her cabinet: Anna Muh as V.P., Chia-Chee Chan as the Secretary, and Gordon Jang as the Treasurer. I look forward to working with the team and my best wishes to the continuous growth of CBC.

I'd like to take this opportunity to review some key issues I have shared with you in my previous messages. As stated in my first message, we need to communicate with our members who we are, whom we serve, what we do, and why we are doing it.

CBC's focus in helping Chinese Americans instead of other ethnic groups is not a type of reverse discrimination. Rather, CBC's founding members saw special needs of this ethnic group and tried to help. Being influenced by their cultural backgrounds, a lot of Chinese Americans do not know that they should get involved with their communities. This attitude is especially true for Chinese immigrants who come from Taiwan, China, and Hong Kong, where democracy is different than in the United States. For those who want to get involved, they also lack the information and support to do so. CBC was

President's Message continued on Page 2

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and enjoy the holiday season!

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established to help Chinese Americans to get involved in our communities.

Although CBC's focus is to help Chinese Americans, CBC also needs to sponsor and support activities that benefit the community at large. By helping other charities, we could show others that we are helpful and friendly, instead of selfish and invasive. By helping other ethnic groups, we gain not only acceptance but also trust and respect. Also, by participating in activities of other organizations, we understand their philosophies, beliefs, and goals. We learn working better together.

Another key issue I have discussed with you in my previous message is membership benefits. CBC is a volunteering service organization. The rewarding experience of volunteering certainly encourages membership renewal. However, the job of new member recruitment can be easier if CBC could offer some other benefits to its members. Currently, CBC's membership benefits include an internship program, a toastmaster speech program, various social functions and parties, and a business breakfast network club. Recently, the Board of Directors also approved a leadership scholarship program to encourage younger members' community involvement, and a business affinity program to offer discounted services and merchandise to members.

In October 2004, right after I was elected as CBC president, Mr. Alberto Torrico, then Assembly Member-Elect, made public misstatements to The Argus newspaper, which were printed on the front page of the October 27, 2004 edition. He said that CBC was a quasi-political organization that only supported Asian candidates. He also stated "The goal of CBC is to make Fremont like Cupertino". Among others, these statements were untrue and negative to CBC's goodwill and reputation. With the help of Mr. John Dutra, former Assembly Member and Mr. Bob Wasserman, City Mayor, Mr. Torrico later met with a few of CBC directors and gave a verbal apology. He also agreed to make a timely written public apology. However, after almost one year, he has not done what he promised regarding his apology. CBC's board has been working very hard to obtain his apology and set the record straight. I apologize to all CBC members that I cannot resolve this issue within my term. I will, however, continue to try to get his apology to CBC, simply as a citizen who lives in his assembly district.

Being president of CBC, I have received great support from directors, officers, committee chairpersons, Spring Celebration coordinator, and our executive director. With their help and support, I had an easy year. They have worked very hard so that CBC had another

successful year of operation and I truly thank them for this opportunity to work with them for this great organization. I'd also thank all our members and friends for their continuous support and for the opportunity to serve this great organization.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Tang
President

CBC Election Results 2005-2006 Officers

At the November monthly meeting, the CBC Board of Directors approved the following executive officer appointments for 2005-2006, effective November 1, 2005.

President: Josephine Chou

Vice President: Anna Muh

Treasurer: Gordon Jang

Secretary: Chia-Chee Chan

Past President: Thomas Tang

Board of Directors: TBA

Installation of CBC Officers & Directors

Please join us for our annual installation and intern recognition luncheon. CBC is a community-based organization and we invite you all to join us for a few hours on Sunday, December 11th. Please contact Anna Muh (510) 226-8678 for more details.

Personal Emergency Preparedness

On Friday, October 14, 2005, more than 75 people from Citizens for Better Community, South Bay Chinese Club and friends attended the Personal Emergency Preparedness (PEP) class held at the City of Fremont Building. Thanks to Chuck Guaraglia, Gordon Yost and Kay Diack for the important and timely training on how to prepare ourselves and our families for a major disaster. Visit www.FremontCERT.org for more information including class schedules and registration.

CBC President 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 welcomed as the President for 2005-2006.



Josephine retired after 15 years working for SONY Electric Inc. in the Accounting and Financial Information System area. Josephine now spends her time supporting organizations that interest her, such as CBC. For the past 3 years, she has served as the Executive Director of Friends of Children with Special Needs, a non-profit organization, helping children with special needs and their families to find hope, love, respect and support through integrated community involvement.

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

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. Sometimes there are just 4-5 of us, and sometimes there are more. Topic(s) of discussion will be sent via email approximately a week prior to each meeting.

Place: Original Pancake House (39222 Fremont Blvd)

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

Contact: Thomas Tang (510) 713-2388

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 Kathy Jang, Executive Director, at 510-790-0740, or email kjang25@yahoo.com.

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Upcoming Event... It's Christmas Party Time

**Saturday, December 17
at Aegis Gardens**



South Bay Chinese Club and Citizens For Better Community will co-sponsor our Christmas party again at Aegis Gardens Senior Retirement Center. Mark down December 17, 3:00pm – 5:30pm now. Make your plans to come see friends and enjoy fun times while spreading the good cheer to others! Come see the beautifully decorated Aegis Gardens.

The Fremont Tap Dancers (who are seniors themselves), singers, and Santa Claus will entertain us. We'll have dinner hosted by the two organizations and Aegis Gardens afterwards. Last year, we all had a great time with the seniors.

Please **RSVP by December 6** to Amy Cho at 797-6426 or Aliene Yee at 657-7972. To help defray expenses, there will be a nominal charge of \$5/person for adults and children over age 10. We are also holding a canned food and toy drive as in previous years. If you want to share something at this time of giving, please make sure to bring it to Aegis Gardens. We will help you deliver it to Tri-Cities organizations.

The address of Aegis Gardens is 36281 Fremont Blvd (across from American High School). Please allow time for parking. Parking at Aegis Gardens is very limited but it can be found easily on side streets.

Parenting Support Seminars

On September 24, October 1 and 29, more than 80 parents attended the Parenting seminars hosted by the Fremont Chinese School and CBC. The topic of discussion was "Communicating with Adolescents" followed by a question and answer session.

Future seminars with interesting and helpful topics dealing with teens are to be held on the following dates:

Saturday ~ November 19, 2005
Saturday ~ December 12, 2005

The seminars are held at Irvington High School (41800 Blacow Road) from 10 a.m. For further information, contact Larry Hsu (510) 676-5702.

FCSN Center under Construction

By Albert Wang
CBC Community Involvement
Chair and FCSN President



Nov. 12 Gala to Fund Furniture and Equipment

Friends of Children with Special Needs (FCSN), a 9-year old organization serving Chinese/Asian American families with special needs children, is completing its "Dream Center" on Peralta Blvd in Fremont. It will serve as the headquarters for the organization, as well as providing much needed services to the disabled community. When completed, it will have 6 classrooms, a resource library, a multi-purpose room, and a kitchen. Programs such as adult day programs, job training, children's after-school programs, therapies, etc. will commence early next year.

Although funding for land and construction is secure, interior needs such as furniture and equipments still require significant resources. FCSN is holding its 4th annual gala "Treasure Our Dream", on November 12, 2005, Saturday, at the Santa Clara Convention Center to raise funds for this purpose and to support initial set up of programs. CBC Community Involvement Chair Dr. Albert Wang, who is also FCSN President this year, would like to invite all of you to join and make this "Dream Center" the best in the Bay Area.

Event: "Treasure Our Dream" Gala
Host: Friends of Children with Special Needs
Date: Saturday, November 12, 2005
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Santa Clara Convention Center
RSVP/Tickets: Josephine Chou (510) 573-3232



Friends of Children with Special Needs "Dream Center" under construction in September 2005.

Greetings from Lieutenant Colonel Garrett Yee

By Garrett Yee



A few of you have been asking what I've been up to. Here is a brief overview of my current assignment. I am currently stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas (near El Paso), with much of my time spent in the southern New Mexico desert. I am a task force commander in charge of providing logistical support to trainers who are helping Soldiers get ready to deploy to the Middle East. To get the job done, I oversee a great team of Soldiers where we (1) maintain a fleet of over 200 tactical vehicles, (2) operate a fuel point, (3) provide equipment and supplies, (4) provide transportation support, (5) operate a small-arms weapons storage facility, and (6) maintain communications equipment. In addition, I oversee the operation of a small base camp in the New Mexico desert that houses up to 1,200 Soldiers undergoing training prior to deployment to the Middle East—this is a 24 x 7 operation. The work is both challenging and rewarding. I find that the time goes by fast with one week running into the next. However, for me, it is an honor to support our Soldiers that are going into harms way. I look forward to returning to work and working more with the community when my assignment is complete.



Above: Part of Garrett's group takes a break from physical fitness training.



Left: Garrett re-enlists a soldier.

CBC Summer Internship

By Beverly Cho

CBC would like to recognize and congratulate the leaders of tomorrow who recently completed summer internships in political offices around the Bay Area. The summer program has been growing every year, and 2005 was no exception. Twenty-one high school students applied and were interviewed. Twelve of these students were selected. CBC would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the offices that participated.



Steve Laird – City of Fremont, Senior Services

Vincent Lee Mission San Jose
Danny Yao Newark Memorial

Pete Stark – California Congressman, 13th District

Johnny Lin Logan High
Karen Yan Irvington High

Liz Figueroa – California Senate, 10th District

Cindy Tsai Mission San Jose
Steve Zhao Mission San Jose

Judy Schwartz – City of Fremont, Family Resource Center

Amy Li Mission San Jose

Johan Klehs – California State Assembly, 18th District

Jani Wong Castro Valley

Elaine Alquist – California State Senator, 13th District

Tina Gong Monta Vista
Lillian Lo Milpitas High
Jerry Zhang Washington High
Connie Zheng Irvington High

After completing their hours, the interns met for an evening of food and general discussion about their experiences. They not only learned about local issues by researching and answering letters from constituents, but they bonded with the other office staff. Cindy Tsai and Johnny Lin were able to have a personal discussion over lunch with Congressman Pete Stark.

With their work hours completed, the interns have one step left to completing the internship. They will be invited to attend a luncheon in December. At this time, each intern will give a brief speech about his/her experiences, and receive their award and stipend. CBC looks forward to seeing you at the event!

The following is a picture from the orientation the interns attended before they began their work. CBC also wishes to thank Karen Chen for coordinating the internship program, with support from Anna Muh and Beverly Cho.



Which Kind of Person Would You Want to Be?

By Robert Kaiser
CBC Toastmasters President



I used to think there were two kinds of people in the world, those who were great speakers and to whom public speaking came naturally and those who were doomed to not be able to speak in front of a crowd. Unfortunately, I belonged to the latter. I was certain that everyone whom I admired as great orators were speaking on a pedestal immediately after coming out of the womb. I, on the other hand, as an introverted individual was destined to live my life as the shy person my DNA and upbringing dictated I should be. When I went back to school, however, I had a professor that taught me something that was not part of the curriculum. While I admired this professor's speaking skills, Mr. Patrick everyday made one student give a presentation in front of the class because he said he had always had a problem speaking in public and it took him 6 months of constant public speaking to overcome it. That is when I realized that my lifelong fear could be cured by facing it. It is also when I realized I needed to join Toastmasters.

When I first went to CBC Toastmasters, I was expecting an uphill battle. I couldn't have been more wrong. The very second I walked in the door I was warmly greeted by Henry Yin. From there the support and friendship oozed from every member I met. Like

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Fremont Cultural Arts Council Juried Photo Exhibit

By Angela Yang

Fremont's 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. Simon worked 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.

Photos are judged on Artistic Merit, Originality, Difficulty and Technical Aspects. You can see some of the award winning photos on the FCAC website at: <http://www.fremontculturalartscouncil.org>.

The 2005 Award Winners are: 1st Place - Pralay Dakua , 2nd Place - Douglas Stinson, and 3rd Place - Julianne Howe.

There are also 14 Merit Awards; Rick Brandt, Marcia Brandt (2), Nigendra Tiwari, Margaret Thornberry, Julianne Howe, Alvin Docktor, Kevin Fox (2), Douglas Stinson, Terry Dixon, Jason Cheng, and Jenn Bioxsom.

Ten year-old Aileen Liang had a picture that captured the reflection of trees in Lake Elizabeth. People's Choice Award went to Douglas Stinson's Great Western Baggage Depot.

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. This year, 206 photographs were submitted from 69 photographers. 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.

If you haven't seen this beautiful exhibit, please stop by the Fremont Main Library at 2400 Stevenson Blvd. The exhibit ends on November 23, 2005.



Angela Yang and Simon Chen

CBC Toastmasters continued (from page 5)

most people who joined Toastmasters, I came with a desire to gain self-confidence in public speaking. While I have achieved this goal beyond what I would have believed possible, what I have gained from our club goes way beyond that initial goal.

The humor and interesting stories that we experience every week at our meetings make me look forward to Saturday morning. The diversity of our club and the constant influx of divergent ideas keep the club alive and after being a member for less than a year, I was inspired to become Club President. As our new President, I hope to carry on the tradition of great leadership started by our founding President Amy Cho who was a finalist for the prestigious "President of Term" award for the entire district (most of Northern California).

Along with Amy and our current roster of officers: Mary Shambaugh, VP Education; Shawn Hsu, VP Membership; Aseem Dayal, VP Public Relations; Beverly Cho, Treasurer; Eva Wu, Secretary; Mike King, Sgt at Arms/Webmaster, we will continue to serve the community and strive to bring honor to our Toastmaster club and Citizens for Better Community to whom we are indebted. We all strive for betterment, whether in the realm of communities, communications or self, it is a noble cause.

CBC Toastmasters meets at Best Friends Learning Center, 42080 Osgood Road at 10 a.m. every Saturday (thanks to the generosity of William and Irene Wang). Please come by and visit.

2005-2006 Directory

President:
Josephine Chou (510) 651-0446

Vice President:
Anna Muh (510) 226-8678

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

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

Past President:
Thomas Tang(510) 353-0507

Executive Director
Kathy Jang.....(510) 790-0740

Committees

Education:
Larry Hsu.....(510) 490-2936

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

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

Community Involvement:
Albert Wang.....(510) 657-6610

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

Intern Program: Anna Muh..... (510) 226-8678

Board of Directors

Cecilia Chang	Karen Chen*	Herbert Chiu
Amy Cho	Steve Cho	Chi Choy
Whisky Ho	Thomas Hom*	Larry Hsu*
Eunice Ko	Albert Wang	Aaron Wong*
Susanna Wong	Angela Yang*	Daphne Yang*
Garrett Yee	Henry Yin	Teresa Yin Wong
Loretta Yu*	Lena Zee*	

* Term expires Nov. 2005; nominations in progress

CBC Advisory Committee

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL (November 1, 2005 – October 31, 2006)

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 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 Corporate/Organization: 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

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Fremont, CA 94537-0001
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CBC's Mission Statement:

"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

FCSN "Treasure Our Dream" Gala

When: Saturday, November 12, 2005
Where: Santa Clara Convention Center
Contact: Josephine Chou (510) 573-3232

Niles Festival of Lights Parade

When: Friday, November 25, 2005
(parade begins approx. 6:30 pm)
Where: Niles Blvd, Fremont

Centerville Tree Lighting

When: Sunday, November 27, 2005
Where: Peralta & Fremont Blvd (Train Depot)

Installation of CBC Officers & Directors CBC Summer Intern Recognition Luncheon

When: Sunday, December 11, 2005
Where: TBD
Contact: Anna Muh (510) 226-8678

CBC/SBCC Christmas Party

When: Saturday, December 17, 2005
Where: Aegis Gardens (Fremont Blvd)
RSVP: Amy Cho (510) 797-6426 by Dec. 6

Next CBC Meetings

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 7, 2005
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 4, 2006
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2006
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

* * * * *

Membership Dues

It is that time of year again. The new membership year began on November 1, 2005. The membership renewal form has been sent via US Mail (or see form on page 7). Please complete the form 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!