



CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY

華人權益服務社

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

Web site: <http://www.cbcsfbay.org>

Membership Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 4

Fall 2011

Save the Date!

*20th Annual Spring
Celebration set for*

Saturday, April 21, 2012

Mark your calendars for one of the biggest celebrations yet! CBC will celebrate its 20th Annual Spring Celebration at the Fremont Marriott with a runway fashion show! At this event, CBC will also recognize the CBC Volunteer of the Year and the CBC Citizen of the Year. More details coming soon!

*Wishing you a healthy and
prosperous 2012!*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Con't ... President's Message / Past President's Message / Installation Luncheon
- 3 Global Winter Wonderland Event
- 4 Volunteering Opportunity for VITA
- 5 Upcoming Events
- 6 CBC Toastmasters / Meal Schedule
- 7 Directory / Membership Application

President's Message

By Gerry Low-Sabado



Dear Members, Friends & Supporters,

I am honored and excited to have been chosen as Citizens for Better Community's President. I plan to continue 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." We can all aspire to CBC's vision statement "to be a model of excellence in community service by facilitation and motivating Chinese American involvement in the community." Thank you to Tim Tran, our immediate past president of two years, for all his efforts and diligence. I know I can count on his extensive experiences and advice, as well as that of our other past Presidents, and our esteemed Board of Directors. Much gratitude to Ivy Wu who has agreed to be CBC's Vice President, Steve Cho who will be CBC's Treasurer, and John Vuong who will be CBC's Secretary. We will strive to strengthen the bonds between our own members and continue to build new friendships and alliances with other organizations in our surrounding communities. We have many members, and our goal this year is to plan activities where we can gather and have TIME to meet, greet, and get to know each other as well as forge new friendships and grow.

Let's build a spirit of camaraderie and strengthen our ties, find common goals, have fun, work towards listening to each other, build friendships, build community..... A Better Community!

I would like the general membership to give your input to the CBC Board about what kinds of events you would like

President's Message continued on Page 2

to see planned and that you would be willing to attend. In this way, we can hope to schedule activities that will be meaningful and rewarding to you and your families. We will be able to take steps forward in bringing together our members and strengthen our membership.

Stay Involved. Mark your calendars with our scheduled events. Email your thoughts to me. Let me know what you are hoping for in this next Citizens for Better Community year. "One Community One Dream. Our passion for one harmony and a united community are embodied in our message..... Citizens for Better Community is proud to share its rich culture and heritage by recruiting and promoting Chinese American consciousness in our local community."

Let's work TOGETHER to make this another successful year of fulfilling our CBC mission and vision statements!

Gratefully,

Gerry Low-Sabado

Gerry Low-Sabado
CBC President 2011-2012
RSaturday@aol.com
(510) 378-0999

Past-President Gives Thanks

By Tim V. Tran

It has indeed been a great honor to serve as CBC's President for the past two years.



Thank you for the opportunity to lead such a well respected and influential non-profit organization. I have been blessed to work with the brightest minds and equal talent in the community.

Throughout my terms, I had the pleasure to witness and learn from great board members and accomplished leaders. Our community faced tough economic times, high unemployment, local and state changes, discontinued essential programs, low corporate sponsors, etc. But through it all, CBC forged ahead, persevered and devised effective solutions to solve difficult challenges.

I sincerely thank you for the amazing opportunity to shape the events, programs and services that positively impact our community.

As I step down from my post as President, I will continue to seek new leadership roles. Wherever I may be and whatever role I serve in the future, I will certainly continue to support CBC and its endeavors.

Take care and we'll meet again soon!

Installation of CBC 2011-2012 Officers and Board Members

The CBC Board of Directors approved the following Executive Officer appointments for 2011-2012:

President: Gerry Low-Sabado
Vice President: Ivy Wu
Treasurer: Steve Cho
Secretary: John Vuong
Past President: Tim V. Tran

The 2011-2012 Board elections are currently in progress and will be listed in the Directory on page 7 in the next newsletter.

The annual Installation/Internship Luncheon will be held on:

Date: **Sunday, November 20, 2011**
Time: 11:00 a.m. sharp – 2:00 p.m.
Place: World Gourmet Buffet
6010 Stevenson Blvd
Fremont, CA 94538
Cost: \$10/person
Contact: Kathy Jang at (510) 790-0740
or kjang25@yahoo.com

CBC will install the Officers and our newly elected Board members and show appreciation for the outgoing Board members. We will also recognize our 2011 CBC Interns.

See page 6 for additional information regarding this event. Everyone is invited to attend!

Come join us!

Nov. 25 through Jan. 2, 2012
Great America Parkway
4701 Great America Pkwy, Santa Clara

Global Winter Wonderland



Over 40 illuminated gigantic lanterns
Live music and dancing
Carnival rides and games
Arts and crafts from around the world
International food pavilion



Arriving from China, our elaborate lantern displays are built by engineers of several structures showcased in the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games.

You have to see them to believe them!

**Travel the world in just one day
A magical adventure awaits!**



NOV. 25TH TO JAN. 2ND
4-11PM (Fri and Sat) 4-10PM (Sun and Weekdays)
Opens daily Dec. 16

TICKETS

Adult: \$12 (At the Gate)
Children (12 & under) and Seniors: \$10

GlobalWonderland.org

globalwonderland.org



VITA Volunteers Needed! Volunteering Promises Big Returns

The average taxpayer pays \$50-\$250 for a paid preparer to complete and file a basic tax return. The **Fremont Family Resource Center's (FRC) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance [VITA] Program** offers **FREE** tax preparation services and E-filing for qualified families and individuals. The FRC VITA Program is the largest in Alameda County. In the Bay Area, VITA is sponsored by the United Way of the Bay Area's Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Coalition and is in partnership with the Internal Revenue Service.

This 2012 tax season YOU can bring millions of dollars into the homes of working families and our local economy!

<p>What does a VITA Volunteer Do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare tax returns for low to moderate income families • Meet with families and provide information and referral to programs and services located at the FRC <p>Other VITA positions include: Greeters, Screeners, Ambassadors, Tax Coaches, Quality Reviewers, and Translators (Spanish, Farsi, Punjabi, and American Sign Language needed)</p>	<p>VITA Volunteer Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get free training to put on your resume • Learn and develop new or enhance present skills • Gain experience and confidence for future employment • Get information to help you file your own tax return • Work one-on-one with families • Help families save money • Help our local economy and communities 	<p>How to get Involved?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend 2 to 30 hours of free training (depending on volunteer position) • Spend 4 hours a week during the tax season (Jan 1 to April 16, 2012) volunteering for the FRC VITA Program! <p>For more information, or to <u>RSVP for the VITA Orientation</u> call:</p> <p>Carolyn Robertson (510) 574-2003 crobertson@fremont.gov</p>
---	--	--

*** Come learn more about the Fremont Family Resource Center's VITA Program ***

Event: Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Orientation

When: Thursday, November 17, 2011

Time: 6 to 8 p.m.

Location: Fremont Family Resource Center
Pacific Conference Room, Suite H-800
39155 Liberty Street
Fremont, CA 94538



KEEP INFORMED by visiting **The VITA Volunteers Network** FaceBook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-VITA-Volunteer-Network/257472114279284>

"For VITA Volunteers by VITA Volunteers"

Upcoming Events....

CBC Installation and Internship Luncheon

On **Sunday, November 20, 2011**, Citizens for Better Community will host the 20th Annual Installation of Officers and Directors Luncheon along with recognizing the 2011 Summer Interns.

The Officers and Directors have committed their valuable time during the past year by attending monthly meetings and coordinating various events. With the dedication from the Officers and Directors, CBC has become an organization that is well recognized within the community.

The interns will be recognized for a job well done in the legislative offices during this past summer. It will be a treat to hear short speeches from the interns about their experience. For some, this may have been their first opportunity to develop insight and skills in a very important area.

CBC thanks Anna Muh for coordinating the Summer Internship program once again. Also, CBC is very grateful for the partnership from AT&T and we look forward to continuing and enhancing the program. Also, we'd like to acknowledge McGrath RentCorp for their kind donation to the Internship program.

Everyone is invited to attend. The luncheon will be held at the World Gourmet Buffet on Stevenson Blvd. and costs \$10/person. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kathy Jang at (510) 790-0740 or kjang25@yahoo.com.

You're Invited to the Christmas Party

By Amy Cho

Citizens for Better Community and South Bay Chinese Club will co-sponsor our Christmas party at Aegis Gardens Senior Retirement Center. Mark down **Saturday, December 10, 2011**, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. 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.

There will be a fun-filled program followed by a visit from Santa. We'll have dinner hosted by the two organizations and Aegis Gardens afterwards. We always have a great time with the seniors.



Please RSVP by December 5 to Aliene Yee (510) 657-7972 or Amy Cho (510) 797-6426. 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 on Fremont Boulevard. This is different from the other Aegis in Fremont!). Please allow time for parking. Parking at Aegis Gardens is very limited but it can be found easily on side streets.

Chinese New Year Celebration "Year of the Dragon"

By Amy Cho

Citizens for Better Community, South Bay Chinese Club, Association of Northern California Chinese Schools (ANCCS), and the Fremont Main Library will again celebrate the Chinese New Year on **Saturday, January 21, 2012**, from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. This year we celebrate the Year of the Dragon! Chinese New Year will be coming earlier than some other years. The official date for the new lunar year is January 23, 2012.

This event is for families, youngsters and anyone interested in Chinese culture. Art and craft booths will fill the library from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Last year, one hardly had enough time to watch all the demonstrations showing Chinese Knots, Paper Cutting, Dough Figurines, and Dragon Design. There will be more of the same this year. In the Storytime Theater, you will find many children's crafts. The children have tons of fun while they observe the demonstrations. They also get hands-on experience doing the crafts themselves and taking their own work home!

Don't miss the entertainment program, which takes place 1:00 p.m. – 2 p.m. in the Fukaya Room. The performances include instruments, storytelling, singing, martial arts and dance! It is fascinating to see the talents we have right here in our own community.

Con't on page 6

Chinese New Year Celebration

(con't from page 5)

Volunteers are always appreciated: We are looking for members who can volunteer 2 hours of their time on Friday afternoon, January 20 around 1:00 p.m. to help decorate and also on Saturday, January 21 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the Chinese New Year event, helping with children's crafts and many other areas. If you know of others who might have crafts to demonstrate, please also let us know. All the supplies will be provided! We only need your time and effort. Please call Amy Cho, (510) 797-6426, Fran Gin, (510) 651-6141, or Peggy Chiou (510) 795-0265.



CBC Toastmasters

By Vaidy Venkatesan
President, CBC Toastmasters



CBC Toastmasters Club has moved to a new location starting October 2011. The new location is North-western Polytechnic University at 47655 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont, CA. Regular club meetings are held in Room 312 on Saturday mornings (except on long weekends) from 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

Dr. George Shieh, President of Northwestern Polytechnic University, presented opening remarks during the first meeting on October 8, 2011 at the new NPU location.

There is already some great news from the club within days of moving to the new location! ChenChen Fan from CBC Toastmasters Club has won the area level Humorous Speech Contest for Area 29 of Division A held on October 6th. This area level contest had

contestants who were winners from various club level contests within Area 29. Area level contest winners from various areas within Division A competed at the division level contest held on October 13th. ChenChen Fan from CBC Toastmasters Club also won the division level Humorous Speech Contest for Division A within District 57. ChenChen Fan will be representing Division A in District level contest that will be held in Vallejo on November 12th as part of the District 57 Fall Conference.



*Congratulations,
ChenChen!
Wishing you the best on
November 12th!*

More information on CBC Toastmasters Club is available at <http://cfbc.freetoasthost.info>

2012 Homeless Shelter Meal Service Schedule

The CBC Youth Group serves meals at Abode Services. The Homeless Shelter Meal Service allows high school students to participate in preparing and serving food to the homeless people. This is a good learning experience for the students and they will receive four community service hours upon completion.

The Youth Group will serve meals on the following days:

Saturday, March 31st (lunch)
Sunday, April 29th (dinner)
Saturday, June 30th (dinner)
Sunday, July 29 (dinner)
Saturday, September 29th (dinner)
Saturday, December 29th (dinner)

If you are interested in helping, please contact Fendi Fuh at FendiFuh@yahoo.com.

CBC Membership Dues

The new membership year began on November 1, 2011. The membership renewal form can be found on page 7 of this newsletter. 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. Thank you in advance for your support!

Citizens for Better Community

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



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

Toastmasters (Citizens for Better Communicators)

When: Saturdays (10:15 am – 11:45 am)
Where: Northwestern Polytechnic University
47655 Warm Spring Blvd, Fremont
Contact: Vaidy Venkatesan at vaidy1@gmail.com

CBC Installation/Internship Luncheon

When: Sunday, November 20, 2011 (11:00 am)
Where: World Gourmet Buffet
6010 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont
Contact: Kathy Jang at kjang25@yahoo.com

CBC/SBCC Christmas Party

When: Saturday, December 10, 2011 (3:00 pm)
Where: Aegis Gardens (across from American HS)
36281 Fremont Blvd, Fremont
Contact: Amy Cho at amytcho@yahoo.com

CBC/SBCC Chinese New Year Celebration

When: Saturday, January 21, 2012 (1:00 pm)
Where: Fremont Main Library
2400 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont
Contact: Amy Cho at amytcho@yahoo.com

Upcoming CBC Meetings

**Note: Prior to each meeting, there will be set-up and a social "hour" from 7 pm.*

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 4, 2012
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 1, 2012
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER

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.

Publisher: Kathy Jang

Committee: Dr. Herbert Chiu, Steve Cho, Dr. Albert Wang

Distribution: Lilly Lee

Contributors: Amy Cho, ChenChen Fan, Gerry Low-Sabado, Tim V. Tran, Jenny Tu/International Culture Exchange Group, Vaidy Venkatesan, Johnny Yee/Fremont Family Resource Center, Irene Yung