

**Membership Newsletter** 

Volume 10, Issue 4

# 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

#### July/August 2010

# Summer Time Fun...





For details on the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and annual BBQ, see pages 5 and 6.

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# President's Message



By Tim V. Tran

Dear CBC members, friends and supporters,

As we gear ahead towards summer, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on our recent accomplishments.

To begin, CBC had our successful Annual Spring Celebration in April 2010. Over 300 friends attended the fundraising gala to show their support. Our programs continue to benefit the community through your generous donations and support.

Also in April, we continued to partner with our sister organization, the South Bay Chinese Club, to help award \$10,000 in scholarships to various students. Kylan Nieh from Mission San Jose High School received CBC's scholarship for Community Service.

Our Youth Internship Program is in full swing and a special thank you to AT&T. With AT&T's support, CBC is able to enhance the quality of this program. I'd also like to thank the city and state legislative offices for giving our youths the opportunity to receive the hands on experience.

In June, CBC attended the Ohlone College's Citizen of the Year Award Luncheon honoring Washington Hospital. CBC would like to congratulate Ngan Vu and Manduo Dong who received the scholarships provided by CBC.

Also in June, we officially started the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program. Many volunteers, parents and students helped organized this 5 week program. This year,

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we had 55 students enrolled in the program. The graduation ceremony was held on Saturday, July 24. Please see page 3 for more details on the graduation.

In July, CBC participated in the Fremont July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. Many different organizations participated under CBC and everyone had a great time. See page 5 for details.

On August 1, there was a good turnout for the annual summer BBQ with the South Bay Chinese Club. I hope you were able to attend and socialize with your friends and meet some new people. More details on page 6.

As we move full steam ahead towards the end of summer and beginning of fall, we continue to embrace community services and build solid relationships with local organizations. We are a unique organization and we build the spirit of our local communities in an important way.

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Respectfully submitted,

Tím V. Tran

Tim V. Tran CBC President 2009-2010

# CBC Internship Program Receives Grant from AT&T

By Tim V. Tran, CBC President

Citizens for Better Community is pleased to announce that we have recently partnered with AT&T to enhance our Youth Internship Program.

On behalf of CBC, I'd like to extend my deepest appreciation to Shiyama Clunie and AT&T for the \$15,000 grant towards the Youth Internship Program. The grant will be used to:

"Support CBC's mission to encourage Chinese American Youth to increase civic participation both in public policy making and to gain experience in public offices, to ensure diverse representation in the community."

With AT&T's generous support, CBC will be able to continue to encourage our youths to actively participate in city and state legislative offices.

CBC looks forward to continuing our partnership with AT&T to make the Youth Internship Program a huge success.



**CBC Newsletter 2** 

# 2010 Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program

By Irene Yung, Youth Group Chair

On Saturday, July 24, 2010, the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program Graduation Ceremony was held on a beautiful morning with over 150 people in attendance. Needless to say, this was another successful year.

We were very fortunate to have the Citizens for Better Communicator Toastmasters support the youth program this year. In addition, I want to thank the four outstanding and devoted coaches for this program: Steve Cho, Breanna Hatcher, James Lechner and Albert Mo. I also want to extend a special thanks to the assistant coaches Sharad Nair, Anna Muh, Amy Cho, Rakhi Sharma and our guest speakers Alexis Bennett, George Marshall, and David Sheen for their time and dedication to the program.

We are deeply grateful for all that the Coaching team has done for us this year. Their contribution, dedication and motivation to the Youth Leadership Program are greatly appreciated. I would like to extend my appreciation to Mr. Albert Mo for planning the well-organized youth leadership program curriculum. Also a special thanks to Mr. Tsai-Wei Wu, President of Friends of Children with Special Needs, for his kind and continuous support by providing a wonderful facility for the leadership program this year. Special thanks to CBC President, Tim Tran, Fremont United School District Superintendent, Jim Morris, FUSD School Board President, Lara York, FCSN President, Tsai-Wei Wu, CBC Board Members Anna Muh and Josephine Chou, FCSN Site Operation Director for attending the Graduation Ceremony on Saturday.

We also want to thank CBC Past President, Lisa Quan, CBC Toastmasters Club President, Justin Paras, FUSD School Board Member, Lily Mei, and FCSN Executive Director, Sylvia Yeh for supporting and participating in the Opening Ceremony held on June 19. Their brilliant speeches gave the young toastmaster students the encouragement to continue their success as well as applaud them for their completion of the program.

Thanks to the great response that we have received over the years, we are able to continue the expansion of the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program. This year we were able to host four classes, along with a total of 55 students in the program. I truly believe that the program will continue to flourish due to the tremendous support from parents, students and the Toastmasters Club.

Special thanks to a wonderful parent who generously made a donation to the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program. We were very fortunate to have over 50 parents graciously volunteer their time and support towards the program. We would like to thank the youth group team leaders Alice Cheung, Doris

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# Fremont Starts Chinese Immersion Program for Fall 2010

#### By Wei-Lin Tong

With one kindergarten class full so far, Fremont Unified School District will be moving forward with a Chinese (Mandarin) Immersion Program at Azevada Elementary School in Fall 2010.

The start of the Chinese Immersion Program (CIP) marks the culmination of over two years of work on

the part of District staff, School Board members (special thanks to Trustees Larry Sweeney, Ivy Wu and Lily Mei), community groups like CBC and parents.

The immersion approach is a proven, effective method in providing children with a well-rounded, academically excellent education and full mastery of both English and any target language. Fremont's CIP would join the existing Spanish Immersion Program as a language magnet in the City. Several other Bay Area public and private schools in Palo Alto, Cupertino, Berkeley, Los Altos, Hayward, and San Francisco have reported phenomenal academic success in their own CIPs. Fremont's CIP would start with the 90/10 model, which is instruction in 90% Mandarin and 10% English for Kindergarten and 1st grade. Beyond those grades, Mandarin instruction would decrease 10% and English increase 10% each year until they are evenly split. Instruction will follow standard state-mandated guidelines.

Given the School District's challenging financial environment requiring teacher layoffs and other program cuts, the School Board stipulated that the CIP could not draw from the existing General Fund. Ongoing fundraising would cover the start-up costs for two classes (textbooks, audio/visual materials, and classroom decorations), teacher development and computer software/licenses. The Chinese Immersion Parents' Council of Fremont, CBC and CBC Foundation have raised \$11,700 toward the goal of \$25,000 thus far (in preparation for a possible second class should there be more demand), thanks to the generous support of parents, community supporters and private corporations. We have also received a challenge grant from the Lawrence Choy Lowe Memorial Fund to match any additional funds raised

up to \$6,000. We are now challenging the community to contribute toward that goal of \$6,000 so that we can realize a fundraising total of \$23,000. Checks can be made out to the CBC Foundation and designated to the Chinese Immersion Program at:

> CBC Foundation c/o Albert Wang 677 Mission Creek Court Fremont, CA 94539

More details can be found at the Chinese Immersion Parents' Council of Fremont website at <u>http://cipcf.wordpress.com</u> or by calling Fremont Unified School District, Dept. of Federal and State Projects at (510) 659-2531.

- Please Donate NOW to the
  - Chinese Immersion Program
  - and your contribution
    - will be matched!

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# Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program

Chung, Fendi Fuh, Sharon Jiang, Amanda Kwan, Margaret Ma, Wing Ng, January Pao, Mabel Wong, Wendy Wong, Jenny Yen, and many parents for making this program successful and possible.

In the short five-week session that this program was held, we were very pleased by the progress that the students have made on their speech skills. During the graduation ceremony the students had the opportunity to deliver their planned speeches and competed in a program contest for the Best Speaker, Best Evaluator, and Best Table Topics Speaker categories.

Best Speaker selected was Katrina Ng while Sherry Jiaa came in second. Judy Chen came in first place for Best Evaluator, followed by Douglas Yuk in second. Lastly, the Best Table Topics Speaker was Ben Gau, with Emily Hou in second place. Congratulations to the winners and to all 2010 Toastmasters students for another successful year.

We appreciate everyone for their dedication and continuous support in the Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program. Without your generosity and support this program would have never been possible. Thank you all for a wonderful year and we will see you next summer! Best wishes to you all!



# Stars and Stripes Forever – 2010 Fremont 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade



#### By Amy Cho

There is always the opportunity for you to be **IN** the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, not just watch from the sidelines. As in previous years, CBC organized local Chinese American organizations to get together and put Entry #64 in Fremont's 2010 Fourth of July parade. In the end, some 150 participants marched together and had a very, very fine time. It was a time for friends to chat and celebrate America's birthday together. This year's parade was held in the Mission San Jose district.

It was exciting to meet early in the morning at Ohlone College and prepare with many other entries. Excitement grew as the morning drew closer to parade time.

Entry # 64 stretched nearly a city block. Red, white and blue colors were seen everywhere as each person carried a U.S. flag or balloons. The Tri City Band Corps, sponsored by CBC, provided music for the participants and the audience this year! How nice it was to have live music.

CBC members and CBC interns led the entry with CBC's banner. This year the CBC interns decorated a van completely from front to back. Not only they piled into the van and drove it, the spirited Elisa Ting even sat on top of the van. Elisa was very funny. She did not fear for her safety on top of the van as the pace of the parade was rather slow. Rather Elisa assured everyone that she would be OK because she was wearing plenty of suntan lotion!



CBC's sister organization, South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) followed up. President Fran Gin motivated many of the SBCC members. In addition to the main priority of the annual scholarship program and activities that support this event, SBCC members often participate in community activities such as this parade. Many CBC members are also SBCC members. It was fun to see each other, to celebrate our freedom and country, and to talk about more events coming up where we would again see each other. Victor and Fran Gin's dog, Linus, comes to the parade every year. At times, Linus has to stop and have a drink of water, but he is definitely a favorite for many parade observers.

Louise Wu, graduate of Santa Clara University and of Mission San Jose High School, rode in a shiny blue convertible. Louise has been the recipient of at least 3 top titles in the nation: Miss Teen Chinatown, Miss Chinatown USA and Miss Asia America. Currently. the reigning Miss San Francisco USA, Louise works in production on The Ellen DeGeneres Show. Louise always makes time for her own community, no matter how busy she is. Would you believe that Louise drove up after work from Los Angeles the night before and when her car broke down unexpectedly near the Grapevine on Freeway 5, Louise did not give up. She managed to get back to LA and find an airplane flight that would get her to the Bay Area by 7:30am... in time to keep her commitment to be in the parade. (Needless to say, it must have been a very expensive plane ticket!)



Louise Wu & Hilary Yen

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## *Con't...from page 5* **Fremont 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade**

A large group of parents and students from the Friends of Children with Special Needs (FCSN) also participated in the parade. Our children in FCSN have much to contribute! They also had fun being a part of the parade. They have been in the parade so many times. FCSN's mission is to help children with special needs and their families find love, hope, respect, and support through integrated community involvement, and they are proud to be part of the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade.

Hilary Yen, currently reigning Miss Teen Chinatown, is a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at Mission San Jose High School. Hilary also rode in a red convertible. Hilary, like Louise, took time out of a very busy schedule to be a part of the parade. In fact, Hilary had a plane to catch for Las Vegas right after the parade.

Purple Lotus Temple and Purple Lotus Buddhist School brought up the rear of the parade. Purple Lotus Temple was established in May 1987 as a nonprofit religious organization. Also Purple Lotus Buddhist School was established in 1997 to integrate Buddhist philosophy and practice into general school education. This school is located in Union City, CA and is one of the three private schools in the New Haven Unified School District. It is the first G1-12 Buddhist School in the Bay Area accredited in 2007 by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

CBC greatly appreciates the help of Kathleen Xu and Magnussen's Lexus for providing these beautiful convertible vehicles for our entry in the parade! Also, thank you to Steve Cho and Jean Louie for arranging for all participants to enjoy ice cream together at the Pink Swirl Yogurt Shop after marching in the parade.

Finally, CBC thanks everyone for showing up and participating with us. Plan to come next year again!



# Annual BBQ Enjoyed by Everyone That Attended

#### By Amy Cho

On August 1, CBC and sister organization South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) held their annual barbeque at the Quail Run Clubhouse in Fremont. Close to 90 members and guests shared happy times, meeting and catching up, while demolishing all the foods and desserts. Our summer weather has been beautiful and it was every bit the same that Sunday.

As in old times, Ken Chinn and Steve Cho barbecued (Merriam Webster dictionary says you can spell this 'barbecued' or 'barbequed') hot dogs, hamburgers, and honey chicken wings. But Ken and Bernadette moved to Seattle in May! How kind of them to return and help.

CBC interns, who are working in legislators' offices this summer, held a meeting at the clubhouse before the BBQ. The interns shared their individual experiences thus far with coordinator Anna Muh. The interns also joined in the BBQ afterwards.



CBC Secretary, Xiping Yang, her husband Pei and mom showed off the new addition to their family, baby Raymond. Congratulations!

It was a great time to chat with both old and new friends. Did you realize that many are both members of CBC and SBCC?



Thank you all for attending the BBQ and always making it such a nice event! Enjoy the rest of the summer.

## 2009-2010 Directory

**Committees** 

Lily Mei.....(510) 770-9888

Herbert Chiu......(510) 471-3777

Richard Li.....(510) 683-3228

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

Youth Group: Irene Yung.....(510) 659-8618 Senior Liaison: Whisky Ho.....(510) 623-7636 Culture Exchange: Lena Zee .....(510) 421-6666 Membership: Tim Tran.....(408) 799-5290 Website: Carl Chen.....(510) 490-8118 Voter Registration: Cecilia Chang...... (510) 713-1769 Internship Program: Anna Muh.....(510) 468-6666 Spring Celebration: Richard Li .....(510) 683-3228

## **Board of Directors**

#### Suzanne Chan Herbert Chiu Gordon Jang Anna Muh Thomas Tang Angela Yang Irene Yung

Stella Chang Amy Cho Sharon Jiang Gerry Low Sabado Albert Wang Sharon Yap Lena Zee

John Chen Josephine Chou Lily Mei David Sheen April Xie Henry Yin

### **CBC Advisory Committee**

Carl Chen, Chair Simon Chen Chi Chov Tony Luh Tim Tam Stanley Woo

Phong La Ting O'Connor Joan Wang Garrett Yee

Adam Chou Cindy Lee **Michelle Royston** Patrick Wong

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL (October 3 1. 2010 – November 1. 2011)

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

\$20 Individual

**Community Involvement:** 

Education:

Health:

**Business:** 

- \$25 Family
- \$50 Corporate/Organization
- \$100 Individual: Life Membership
- \$200 Family: Life Membership
- **□** \$500 Corporate/Organization: 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		

New
Renewal

#### **Citizens for Better Community**

P.O. Box 1 Fremont, CA 94537-0001 Web site: http://www.cbcsfbay.org

#### 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: Intero Real Estate Services 43225 Mission Blvd, Lower Level Fremont, CA 94539 Contact: ChenChen Fan at gsdchops@gmail.com

#### Homeless Shelter Meal Service

When: Sundays, Sept. 12 & Oct. 10 (lunch) Contact: FendiFuh@yahoo.com

#### SAVE Breakfast Eye Opener

When: Friday, September 24, 2010 (7:30 am) Where: Fremont Marriott Contact: <u>www.save-dv.org</u>

#### WHHS Top Hat XXIV

When: Saturday, October 9, 2010 (6 pm) Where: Grounds of Washington West Contact: <u>foundation@whhs.com</u>

# Tri-City Elder Coalition Seniors' Night Out When: Friday, October 15, 2010 (5 pm - 8 pm) Where: Newark/Fremont Hilton

Contact: <a href="mailto:seniorsnightout@comcast.net">seniorsnightout@comcast.net</a>

# **Upcoming CBC Meetings**

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

# CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 1, 2010 Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

#### **CBC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, October 6, 2010 Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

### CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 3, 2010 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.

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