



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 9, Issue 5

November/December 2009

Save the Date!

*18th Annual Spring
Celebration set for*

Saturday, April 24, 2010

Mark your calendars for one of the biggest celebrations yet! CBC will celebrate its 18th Annual Spring Celebration at the Fremont Marriott. This year, the Event Co-Chairs are Vice-President Richard Li and President Tim Tran. At this event, CBC will recognize the CBC Volunteer of the Year and the CBC Citizen of the Year. Don't miss it! More details coming soon.

*Wishing you a healthy and
prosperous 2010!*

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President's Message

By Tim V. Tran



*(Speech delivered at Installation/
Internship Luncheon on November 7, 2009)*

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Interns, CBC supporters, friends and family,

Allow me to thank you for the opportunity to serve as CBC's president for 2010. I am thrilled to take on this challenge. However, it will not be an easy task. Corporations have scaled back and we feel the pain in the form of sponsorships, which in turn affects how we give back to our community.

Despite the economy, the trends are good and we continue to drive continuous improvements. Let me take a minute to share with you a success story. This past summer, we completed our most successful Toastmaster Youth Leadership Program. For five weeks, we worked tirelessly to help students learn the art of public presentation, engagement and speaking. With the help of volunteers, parents and Friends of Children with Special Needs who generously donated their time and facility, we graduated 65 students who are now more confident in their engagement with people. Why am I sharing this story with you? Because I want to see the program grow to 100 students in 2010. In order to achieve that goal, we need your help in the form of membership, volunteerism and sponsorship.

As president, my first goal is to continue to produce sequential improvement and expand on our previous successes, such as the internship, scholarship (which we partner with our sister club, the South Bay Chinese Club) and the widely popular Toastmaster Youth Leadership programs.

President's Message continued on Page 2

My second goal is to grow the organization through membership. We know that the key to success for any organization is draw on new members who help carry on the mission. We need to recruit new and younger students and professionals to help expand our presence in the Tri-City area. In the past 18 years, we have served our community well. However, times are changing and we need to be flexible and work smarter to deliver on our promise. We need to change with the times to reach out to the individuals and organizations that truly require our help.

Many of the founders who are sitting here in this very room have made great strides in growing the organization for almost two decades. We appreciate your support. Now it's time for us to take a giant leap forward and make a greater impact on our community. As we move forward, we continue to adhere to our core values and guiding principles with our decisions as this is our foundation and culture.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn't thank AT&T for their support of the Internship program. Over the years, AT&T has been a great CBC supporter, and this year they continued to provide the necessary funds that enabled us to have such a successful internship program. Thank you AT&T.

Thank you all for coming and I look forward to delivering confidence with you today and in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim V. Tran

Tim V. Tran
CBC President 2009-2010

Out-going President's Message

By Lisa M. Quan,
CBC's Immediate Past-President



This is it! As my term as president of the CBC draws to a close, I am taking this opportunity to thank our board of directors, Treasurer Gordon Jang, Secretary Bernadette Chinn and Vice President Tim Tran for all their help and support this year. Without all their hard work, skills and creativity, CBC could not have exceeded

its goals to better serve this community.

By the time this newsletter is published, CBC would have recognized our youth interns who have successfully completed our summer internship program at a luncheon held in their honor. As I emphasized at the beginning of my term, I wanted to see an increase in the number of participating students and thanks to the chair of the program, Anna Muh, we met that goal.

We are continuing our work with other community-service organizations and the U.S. Census to obtain an accurate head-count in 2010 to help bring more resources to our community. I am so pleased that CBC collaborated so successfully with Vision New America, Asian Pacific Islander Public Affairs Association (APAPA) and other groups. CBC will distribute custom-designed T-shirts and census information at our upcoming functions so please come by to pick up yours!

It is well established that no community service organization can continue to serve its mission without maintaining a strong member base. This member base must be nurtured and new membership must be encouraged. This year, the chair of membership, Tim Tran, did more than his fair share of recruiting new members. This was one of CBC's record years in membership recruitment.

Finally, I would like to welcome the incoming president of CBC who is none other than our Vice President, Tim Tran. I have assured him, his new cabinet, and our board members that as the immediate past-president, I will continue my work with the CBC and help it achieve its future goals. So despite the first sentence of this message, I am far from finished!

Thank you all for allowing me to serve CBC and the community.

Membership Dues

The new membership year began on November 1, 2009. 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!

CBC 2009-2010 Officers

In November, the CBC Board of Directors approved the following executive officer appointments for 2009-2010, effective November 7, 2009:

President: Tim V. Tran
Vice-President: Richard Li
Treasurer: Steve Cho
Secretary: Xiping Yang
Past President: Lisa Quan
Legal Counsel: Lisa Quan
Executive Director: Kathy Jang

CBC Summer Internship

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. This year, 15 high school students were selected. CBC would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the legislative offices that participated.

Congressman Pete Stark

Wilson Tsai Katherine Wu

Senator Ellen Corbett

Deborah Szeto

Assemblymember Fiona Ma

Andrew Hsu

Assemblymember Mary Hayashi

Eric Gan Kevin Yuan

Assemblymember Paul Fong

Megan Lee Elaine Tang

County Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker

Annie Chiou

County Supervisor Scott Haggerty

Valentina Fung Gary Wong

City of Fremont

Stephen Hou Mason Yang
Alissa Yee

San Jose Councilman Pete Constant

Andrea Kuan

Christmas Party – Saturday, December 12!

By Amy Cho

Citizens for Better Community and South Bay Chinese Club will co-sponsor our annual Christmas party at Aegis Gardens Senior Retirement Center. Mark down **Saturday, December 12**, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm 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 short musical performances 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 6 to Bernadette Chinn (510) 790-3944 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-City 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. See you ALL!

Adult Mandarin Class

Anyone interested in learning how to speak Mandarin?

The American Chinese School, under the directorship of Wei Ming Kok, has just started an adult Mandarin class. The emphasis on this class will be conversational Mandarin. It is geared toward the English speaking crowd (of any age). There are no prerequisites for the class other than an interest to learn. The tuition cost for the class is \$200 plus \$10 for a textbook.

The classes are held at American High School on Saturday mornings from 9 am-11 am. At this point, classes are generally scheduled for every other Saturday. There are some Saturdays where the class will meet on consecutive weeks. The following is a class schedule for 2009-10:

2009: 11/7, 11/21, 12/5, 12/19

2010: 1/9, 1/23, 2/6, 2/27, 3/6, 3/20, 3/27, 4/17, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15. If you are interested in participating, please contact Wei Ming Kok at waiming@achineseschool.org, (510) 796-9880.

Toastmasters in the Real World

By Justin Paras
President, CBC Toastmasters



"According to most studies, people's number one fear is public speaking. Number two is death. Death is number two. Does that sound right? This means to the average person, if you go to a funeral, you're better off in the casket than doing the eulogy." -- Jerry Seinfeld

Do you want to get over your fear of speaking?
Do you want more self-confidence?
Do you want to build skills that will advance your career and enhance your personal life?
Do you want to be part of an organization that helps you build your self-confidence while also allowing you to help others build their self-confidence?

If your answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, then Toastmasters is for you! Toastmasters was started in 1924 and has grown to more than 12,500 clubs and more than 250,000 members in 106 countries. CBC Toastmasters is in its 5th year as a club and has grown to 34 active members. The mission of any Toastmasters club is to "provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth."

The magic of Toastmasters can only be experienced through attending one of our weekly meetings. Each meeting is scheduled for an hour and a half and consists of 10-20 members. The various segments of each meeting are structured to give all those in attendance the chance to speak and learn skills that can be applied in the real world. Below is a summary of 4 key roles that members play at each meeting, along with a description of how the skills learned through the roles can be applied in everyday situations.

1) Toastmaster: The Toastmaster is the emcee for the meeting. It is the Toastmaster's task to create an agenda for the meeting, introduce each speaker, and form a bridge between the various parts of the meeting.

Real World Benefit: Events come up in our careers and personal lives where we are called to organize

and/or lead a meeting. Through being a Toastmaster, you will learn how to effectively organize an agenda, introduce speakers, and create segues from one section of an event to another.

2) Prepared Speakers: Prepared Speakers present prepared speeches based on Toastmasters International's Basic Communications and Leadership Manuals, which provide structure and guidance to improve skills such as organization, vocabulary, vocal variety, and body language.

Real World Benefit: At various points in our lives, we will be asked to give a speech. Signing up to be a prepared speaker at a Toastmaster meeting will provide you with a non-threatening environment to conquer your nervousness, enhance the skills you already have, and remove any bad speaking habits that you have acquired over time.

3) Speech Evaluators: Speech Evaluators provide feedback to the prepared speakers.

Real World Benefit: We are often asked to provide feedback to coworkers, family members, and friends on a range of different topics. Through being a speech evaluator at a Toastmaster meeting, you will learn how to effectively provide both positive and constructive feedback.

4) Table Topics Participant: Table Topics participants give 1 to 2 minute impromptu responses on topics that are presented by the Table Topics master.

Real World Benefit: We often find ourselves in situations where we are asked to speak without much preparation. Examples include job interviews, meetings at work, and social occasions. Being a Table Topics participant at a Toastmaster meeting will help you sharpen the skills necessary to effectively speak "on the fly".

Come see what it's all about! Visitors are always welcome!

What: Citizens for Better Communicators
Toastmasters

When: Saturdays

Where: Intero Real Estate Services
43225 Mission Boulevard, Lower Level
Fremont, CA 94539

Time: 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Freedom for Fremont Piano Teacher Comes at a Cost

Reported by Patty Fisher, San Jose Mercury News, dated November 2, 2009

In the end, vindication was bittersweet.

For four years, Fremont piano teacher Boping Chen insisted he was not a child molester. Even after he was convicted of fondling a student during her lessons and sentenced to 14 years in prison, he maintained his innocence. In June, a judge ruled that he had not received an adequate defense. He was released and granted a new trial.

On Monday, the prosecutor announced that she had decided not to retry the case.

Chen had his freedom and his dignity back.

But if the celebration outside the Redwood City courtroom was subdued, it was because the ordeal had cost the 58-year-old musician so much of value: his livelihood, his privacy and his reputation, not to mention four years of his life.

"My feelings are very mixed," he told me. "I am excited, but I have been wronged."

The court hearing lasted only a couple of minutes. Chen's wife and daughter, stuck in traffic because of the Bay Bridge closure, missed the whole thing. Deputy District Attorney Melissa McKowan told Judge Susan Etezadi that she was forced to drop the charges because the alleged victim refused to testify in a second trial. The judge asked if Chen had any objections, and of course he didn't. Case dismissed.

A compelling story

Without its star witness, the district attorney had no case. The Menlo Park girl was 8 when she began taking lessons from Chen in 2001. She was 12 when she testified at the trial that he had put his hands under her clothing while she was playing, during every lesson, for three years. From all accounts she was a compelling witness.

Unfortunately, Chen's lawyer at the time never called experts who would have raised doubts about the girl's story. How could a child progress as quickly as this one did when her teacher was groping her every week? Why did no other victims step up? Why was there no other evidence that Chen was a pedophile?

Alan Dressler, Chen's trial attorney, later said he thought the prosecution's case was so weak that the jury would never buy it. But the jury convicted Chen on 63 counts of child molestation.

Today that girl must be 15 or 16. I wonder if she's still sticking to her story. If she was lying, as I suspect she was, then she knows she sent an innocent man to prison. Does she know she forced him into debt and made him miss out on seeing his own daughter grow up?

Playing music all day

These days Chen's daughter, Amanda, 22, wakes up every morning to the sound of her father playing the piano or the violin. She says he plays all day long. "It's just like it used to be," she says.

Except that her father is reluctant to go out in public now. "We go to a restaurant and people come up to him," she said. "My dad is a shy guy. He doesn't like that."

And, unlike the days before the allegations, when Chen was in demand as a teacher, he doesn't have any students now. He would like to teach again, but he's nervous, having learned that music teachers, who work alone with children, are vulnerable to abuse claims.

Monday was a good day for the Chen family, but their ordeal is not over. The cloud has been lifted, but the damage the storm left behind remains.

"I am happy it is over," Amanda said, "but I wish it had not taken so long. I think the court owes my dad an apology."

Surely someone does.

Note: Boping Chen and his family came to CBC's board meeting on Nov. 4th to express their sincere appreciation for CBC's strong and enduring support over the last 3 years. Many CBC members helped Boping individually and as a group, as CBC was the only civic organization who formally acknowledged Boping's innocence after extensive study and analysis of the case.

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, Steve Cho, Dr. Herbert Chiu, Patty Fisher (San Jose Mercury News), Justin Paras, Lisa Quan, Tim Tran, Dr. Albert Wang

Celebrating the 150th Birthday of Quock Mui

By Amy Cho



Quock Mui was the first documented Chinese woman born in the Monterey, California area. She was born on August 13, 1859 to Chinese parents who immigrated to America. Gerry Low-Sabado, one of our most active SBCC members, is a descendent of Quock Mui! These immigrants' junk/ship drifted along Point Lobos and it is now known that the Chinese started the first commercial fishing industry in Monterey.

The celebration was held at 774 Wave Street, site of Quock Mui's home. The family first lived in a Point Lobos cabin. They then moved to Stillwater Cove at Pescadero Point at what is now known as Pebble Beach and then moved to Point Almejas, also known as Point Alones. On May 16, 1906 a mysterious fire destroyed Quock Mui's house, among others in Pacific Grove. The fire was extremely suspicious and we now know it was probably due to arson and set to chase the Chinese fishermen away. The Chinese were not allowed to rebuild their houses. Nevertheless, Quock Mui and her husband Jeung Yow Hoy moved with their son to the McAbee Beach Chinese Village on Ocean View Blvd., now known as Cannery Row. In 1920, the family moved to the Monterey address at 774 Wave Street. In spite of all of this, Quock Mui engaged the community. She spoke 5 languages – English, Chinese, Indian, Spanish and Portuguese. She died on September 27, 1936.

Quock Mui's family did not talk about the past and her descendents grew up not knowing about their own history. Gerry didn't know it either. In 2003, California State University – Monterey Bay created a documentary "By Light of Lanterns – the Untold History of Monterey's Chinese Fishermen." It was then that Gerry's new "turn in life" began. Today, Gerry is busy preserving and publicizing the history of Chinese in California, particularly in the Pacific Grove and Monterey areas. Gerry works with Stanford University and historical societies on many of these projects. The list is growing and growing! We hope we won't lose sight of Gerry.

Leland Yee, the first Chinese American to be elected to the California State Assembly and currently serving as Assistant Pro-Tempore of the California State Senate attended the celebration in Monterey. He said

we don't think of Chinese in Monterey and Pacific Grove. We are focused on Chinese who live in the Bay Area and we often don't think of the Chinese who also went to Salinas, Watsonville, Monterey, Pacific Grove and many other localities in California.

Also attending was Nancy Selfridge, Vice Mayor and member of the Monterey City Council. The Vice Mayor thanked the descendents and distinguished guests/participants for coming to Monterey. She said "we are all proud of Gerry for helping us to learn more."

South Bay Chinese Club members who attended included: Gerry's husband Randy (6th generation descendents Amber and Brandon also attended) and many family members, Cecilia, Joe and Michiko Zerda, Millie Leon, Les and Linette Young, Victor and Fran Gin, Steve and Amy Cho.

Quock Mui's home at 774 Wave Street has now been preserved and the lower level has been transformed into "Wave Street Studios" and the Quock Mui Tea Room. Many history and public interest broadcasts come from Wave Studios. Gerry's family drifting in Point Lobos never reached the California Gold Country. Instead, they became fishermen. As the room was filled with excited and happy people, Gerry beamed and said she has "fulfilled her family's legacy".



2009-2010 Directory

President:

Tim Tran(408) 799-5290

Vice President:

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

Secretary:

Xiping Yang..... (510) 364-0159

Treasurer:

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

Past President/Legal Counsel:

Lisa Quan(510) 438-6868

Executive Director

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

Committees

Education:

Ivy Wu.....(510) 252-9890

Health:

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

Business:

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

Community Involvement:

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

Stella Chang

John Chen

Herbert Chiu

Amy Cho

Josephine Chou

Gordon Jang

Mike Liu

Lily Mei

Anna Muh

Gerry Low Sabado

David Sheen

Thomas Tang

Albert Wang

Angela Yang

Sharon Yap

Henry Yin

Irene Yung

Lena Zee

CBC Advisory Committee

Carl Chen, Chair

Simon Chen

Adam Chou

Chi Choy

Phong La

Cindy Lee

Tony Luh

Ting O'Connor

Michelle Royston

Tim Tam

Joan Wang

Patrick Wong

Stanley Woo

Garrett Yee

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL (November 1, 2009 – October 31, 2010)

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

Spouse:

Last Name

First Name

Chinese Name

Address:

Street

City

State

Zip

Home Phone #

Office Phone #

e-mail

Citizens for Better Community

P.O. Box 1

Fremont, CA 94537-0001

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

Save the Date

CBC's 18th Annual Spring Celebration

Saturday, April 24, 2010

Details to follow....

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 (see page 4)

Contact: Justin.Paras@gmail.com

Adult Mandarin Classes

When: Saturdays, see page 3 for dates (9 am – 11 am)

Where: American High School

Contact: Wei Ming Kok at waiming@achineseschool.org
or (510) 796-9880

CBC/SBCC Annual Christmas Party

When: Saturday, December 12, 2009 (3 pm – 6:00 pm)

Where: Aegis Gardens (Fremont Blvd)

Contact: Amy Cho (510) 797-6426 or Bernadette Chinn
at (510) 790-3944 by Dec. 6

CBC/SBCC Chinese New Year Celebration

When: Saturday, February 20, 2010

Where: Fremont Main Library

CBC Annual Spring Celebration

When: Saturday, April 24, 2010

Where: Fremont Marriott

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 2, 2009

Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 6, 2010

Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

CBC Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

