

# CITIZENS FOR BETTER COMMUNITY 華人權益服務社

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

Website: http://www.cbcsfbay.org

### **Membership Newsletter**

Volume 22, Issue 2

March – June 2022



President's Message (from Spring Celebration)

By Herbert Chiu, CBC President



Dear CBC Members and Friends,

Spring of 2022 is the third Spring of the pandemic. It will also be remembered, by many, as the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Citizens for Better Community. I am humbled and honored to serve CBC as the charter president in 1992 and its 30<sup>th</sup> president.

Congratulations to CBC for 30 years of remarkable growth - growth in membership, vision, effectiveness and credibility. We were a bunch of mavericks in the '90s; however, CBC is, today, one of a handful of premier organizations in the Bay Area API community. I salute to the past and current CBC board members, administrative staff, members and volunteers for their dedication, passion, selflessness and time in serving our community over the years. CBC would not be here, if not for all of them!

CBC, with a clear mission statement and core values, is a marvelous example of what citizen activism is all about. I was lucky and caught a great wave 30 years ago and have been riding it ever since - that wave is API involvement and giving back to the community where we raise our children and fulfill our careers. Members of CBC have served in leadership positions in organizations such as Washington Hospital Healthcare Foundation, Ohlone College Foundation, American Cancer Society, Asian American Donor Program, Rotary Clubs, Chamber of Commerce(s), Planning Commission, Human Relations Commission, Alameda County Library Commission, Fremont Symphony, Fremont Youth Symphony, Alameda County Supervisor's office, Fremont Unified Student Store, Fremont Education Foundation, Ohlone College Board of Trustees, Fremont Unified School District Board of Trustees, various PTA's and the Fremont City Council.

CBC members who have committed to public service know the difference between giving and taking. They are not driven by a desire for wealth, fame or status. CBC members hold strong beliefs of integrity, keeping their word, sticking to principles, value friendship & loyalty and service above oneself.

Thank you to the generous sponsors and to those who were able to join us at our 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Celebration. Your continued support of CBC allows us to carry on with our mission.



### Spring Celebration "Silk Road Journey"

CBC's 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Celebration "The Silk Road Journey" was held on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at Pearl Bay Restaurant in Fremont. This annual



gala is a major fundraiser for CBC to further its mission of supporting many locally based non-profit and community organizations in Fremont, Newark and Union City. CBC is proud that the funds raised from this year's Spring Celebration – in addition to the many other organizations CBC supports throughout the year – was donated to Toishan Benevolent Association and New Day for Children.

Toishan Benevolent Association has recruited many volunteers to patrol 21 areas within Oakland Chinatown, rain or shine, to make the area a safe haven for immigrant families and preserving the rich Chinese-American history present in the East Bay today.



New Day for Children has worked to provide hope and healing to American girls who have been rescued from sex trafficking. Healing is made possible as New Day provides placement assistance and financial support for much needed services such as: safe housing, trauma informed therapy, school, horse therapy and more.



The evening's entertainment was enjoyed by all which included a duet Silk Road Dance to DunHuang Caves and musical entertainment by Xinjiang Ensemble alongside elegant dancers.

This year's Spring Celebration was made possible only through the generous support of all the Sponsors, the Spring Celebration Committee, the entire CBC Board of Directors, our community friends and various organizations. CBC extends their sincerest appreciation to the following:

### **Diamond Sponsor**

• Building Futures Foundation

### Silver Sponsors

- Kaiser Permanente
- Milpitas Square, LLC
- Nuvera Homes
- Washington Hospital

### Bronze Sponsor

• Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert

### Internship Sponsor

Civic Leadership USA

### Table Sponsors

- Business And Housing Network & Friends
- Charles Liu
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- FCSN / Albert & Anna Wang
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- Fremont Rotary
- Henry Yin
- Herbert Chiu, D.D.S.
- Homelegance (Rosa Chao)
- Huaren Rotary Club
- Judy Muramoto Family
- Kathy Kimberlin
- Lena Zee
- Midji & Mathew Rovetta
- Ohlone College Foundation
- South Bay Chinese Club
- Teresa Eng
- Thomas Tang
- Toishan Benevolent Association
- Yajing Zhang
- Yang Shao
- Ying-Min Li

We also express our gratitude to our monetary donors, in-kind and advertisement donors, and raffle prize and silent auction donors. Your contribution is greatly appreciated!

# "The Silk Road Journey" Spring Celebration 2022

Photos Courtesy of Alan Huang











## Message from CBC's Sister Club, South Bay Chinese Club



By Clifton M. Der Bing, SBCC President

As COVID-19 drags on with new variants, South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) maintained its endearing service to the community. The annual Scholarship Awards supported several local graduating high school seniors (see page 5). COVID-19 will not stop us from safely supporting our future leaders, as we managed to conduct this in-person event. SBCC also came together to support a proposed proclamation in the City of Pacific Grove that would honor the late SBCC member Gerry Low-Sabado's advocacy, apologize for past injustices to the Chinese community, and honor the victims of the Chinese Fishing Village.

In SBCC, we hold fast to the organization's 1965 mission statement: "To preserve the culture and customs of the Chinese heritage, to foster and encourage better understanding of civic responsibilities and the American way of life, and to promote the general welfare of the community." SBCC continues to embrace and fulfill its mission, even when we must do so only virtually.

I had the great honor to have been elected President in October of 2021, and I am humbled by the incredible support and guidance I have received from other inspiring SBCC leaders. After each meeting and event, I learn not only more about our programs and history, but also- perhaps more importantly-about the enriching sense of camaraderie that continues to grow in the organization. We have united together during proud moments for our high school scholarship recipients, times of mourning for the passing of some of our beloved members and aspirational discussions about SBCC's future. We were together through them all, and we will continue to be together through the difficult times and the celebratory times ahead.

I welcome you to connect with me and to enjoy our events--whether virtually or (where safe and responsible) in-person. It is through SBCC that we are able to continue weaving the fabric of our beautiful community. I look forward to an even brighter 2022, where SBCC continues to demonstrate how we all join together on a united front to form one wholesome community.

For more information on SBCC, visit HERE.

### Words and Phrases (Prepared Speech)

By Sushma Sharma, Member CBC (Adult) Toastmasters

Words, phrases and expressions have the ability to transform a mundane speech to an excellent speech. I have often taken the role of a grammarian during our toastmaster meetings and have listened for exceptional use of words and phrases.

I recently read the Nobel Prize winning book, "A Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. What stood out for me in this book was the beautiful phrases and prose. I started writing some of these phrases in a diary, some of them are the following:

The strength of our prejudices. Our solitude in disarray. A relationship that has ebbed and flowed. There is no illness that happiness cannot cure. Love's power to heal. Edit the past through the lens of our current times. The past brings tears, the future brings doubt, live for the present.

I realized that words and phrases say so much in such few words. Some phrases and quotes stand the test of time and have been around for centuries. The quote, "Character is destiny" is attributed to Herculitus about 500 BC. Julius Caesar's famous quote, "Veni, vidi, vici" - I came, I saw, I conquered is so well known even today.

Many phrases from Shakespeare's plays have become part of our everyday expressions— "These hands will never be clean" from Macbeth, "Unkindest cut" from Julius Caesar and from Hamlet the most quoted phrase, "To be or not to be that is the question."

Throughout history we have some very powerful phrases and quotes associated with historical leaders. One can easily remember JFK for the stirring line in his inauguration speech, "Ask not what your country can do for you — ask what you can do for your country." We remember Martin Luther King was his poignant message, "I have a dream". Phrases and expressions are still alive today from the speeches of historical figures like Winston Churchill, Mahatma Gandhi and many, many others.

The most recent movement, "Black Lives Matter"three simple words that speak volumes to the history of biases, police high-handedness, brutality and hardship of the African American experience.

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### South Bay Chinese Service Club Scholarship Awards Program



By Jane Lin, SBCC Scholarship Chair

On Wednesday, April 27, 2022, the South Bay Chinese Service Club (SBCSC) awarded \$41,000 in scholarships to 22 exceptional high school seniors of Chinese descent at our Scholarship Awards Banquet at Grand Golden Bay Seafood in Union City, CA, after two years of virtual Zoom celebrations. This year is the 52nd anniversary of our scholarship program, and over the years, we have awarded over \$550,000 in scholarships to hundreds of Tri-City area high school students.

South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) President Dr. Clifton Der Bing opened the banquet by welcoming and commending the graduates for their perseverance, and thanking the parents and scholarship donors for their interest and involvement. Scholarship Committee Chairperson Jane Lin praised the students for their outstanding academic achievements and exceptional community service, and encouraged them to "go out and conquer the world", then to come back and continue our important legacy. Past President and Scholarship Committee member Joe Woo then gave a brief history of the South Bay Chinese Club and the Scholarship Program.

Our Keynote Speaker Shelly Gin, the development manager at Chinese for Affirmative Action, a San Francisco-based non-profit founded to protect the civil and political rights of Chinese Americans, and to advance social justice and multiracial democracy in the U.S., gave an inspiring speech about "navigating and accepting" one's cultural identity and heritage, and finding the passion to fight for our beliefs.

In addition to receiving the monetary awards, the recipients also received a plaque and Certificates of Commendation and Special Recognition from U.S. Congressman Ro Khanna, State Senator Bob Wieckowski, State Assembly- members Alex Lee, 20<sup>th</sup> District and Bill Quirk, 25<sup>th</sup> District, Alameda County Supervisors David Haubert, First District, and Richard Valle, Second District, Alameda County Assessor Phong La, and Fremont City Mayor Lily Mei. These certificates, along with the scholarship award plaques and checks, were distributed by SBCC President Dr. Clifton Der Bing, Service Club President Aaron Wong, and Scholarship Committee Chair Jane Lin following a tasty 7-course meal.

The 22 scholarship winners this year are an impressive group of scholars representing 4 high schools in Fremont and one high school in Union City. The average unweighted GPA was 3.90, with an amazing 14,068 community service hours amassed. In this group, there were National Merit Finalists, numerous AP Scholars with Distinction and Honors, 7 students with a perfect unweighted 4.0 GPA, Eagle Scout and Girl Scout Gold Awards, Presidential Service Awards (Gold), Robotics Awards, Scholar Athlete Awards, student leaders in student government positions, a published author of math books for teens, a 3-time national Chinese calligraphy winner, and a US Table Tennis National Team member.

The scholarship recipients and the awards they received can be found HERE.



Words and Phrases	.cont'd from page 4
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I realize that when giving an instructional or a purely business speech there is less use of words and expressions that call for our imagination. But often, we as participants relate our personal stories during these meetings. It gives us room to use words, and expressions that add meaning to our thoughts, ideas, and experiences. It makes our speeches more impactful. ~Sushma Sharma

For more information on Citizens for Better Communicators (CBC) Adult Toastmasters Club, visit <u>HERE.</u> Guests and visitors are always welcome.

# **Homeless Shelter Meal Service**

Taking COVID restrictions into consideration, Sherry Chang, Samson & Yvonne Ng, and a couple of high school students continue to prepare and serve meals at Sunrise Village in Fremont. The students receive community service hours for volunteering. In 2022, CBC will serve meals on the following dates:

- ~ Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> (lunch)
- ~ Saturday, July 30th (dinner)

For more information or to sign up to help, please contact <u>sherry.y.chang@gmail.com</u>.

# **Upcoming CBC Meetings**

CBC Board of Directors meet on the first Wednesday of each month. CBC members or guests from the community are welcome to attend the general meeting starting at 7:30 p.m. The regular Board meeting for the Officers and Directors immediately follows the general meeting. The upcoming meetings dates are as follows:

- ~ Wednesday, June 1, 2022
- ~ Wednesday, July 6, 2022
- ~ Wednesday, August 3, 2022

Please email <u>cbcoutreach20@gmail.com</u> to request virtual meeting information.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL (January 1, 2022– December 31, 2022)

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. Or visit <u>www.cbcsfbay.org</u> for online membership.

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New

Renewal

Individual

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

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

Last Name	First Name		
Street	City	State	Zip
Home Phone #	Cell Phone #	e-mail	
	Street	Street City	Street City State

### **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."

#### **CBC's Vision Statement:**

"CBC will be a model of excellence in community service by facilitation and motivating Chinese American involvement in the community."

### 2021-2022 Board Directory

President: Herbert Chiu

**Co-Vice Presidents:** Midji Rovetta & Teresa Eng

Secretary: Wilson Hu

Co-Treasurers: Steve Cho & Julie Wang

Past President: David Lam

Legal Counsel: David Sheen

Executive Director: Kathy Jang

### Committees

Education: Yang Shao & Yajing Zhang

Health: Herbert Chiu & Sue Kwong

Business: Henry Yin

Community Involvement: Albert Wang

Membership: Wing Ng

Youth Internship: Charles Liu

TYLP/Gavel Club: Midji Rovetta

Culture Exchange & Social Activities: Lena Zee & Cecilia Leon

Spring Celebration: Herbert Chiu & Kathy Kimberlin

### 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Herbert Chiu Steve Cho Teresa Eng Whisky Ho Wilson Hu Kathy Kimberlin Sue Kwong David Lam Cecilia Leon Ying-Min Li Henry Liang Charles Liu Chunchi Ma Lily Mei Anna Muh Wing Ng Midji Rovetta Yang Shao Albert Wang Julie Wang Henry Yin Lena Zee Yajing Zhang Yonggang Zhang

#### **CBC NEWSLETTER**

We welcome your questions, comments and feedback. You may send them to CBC, P.O. Box 1, Fremont, CA 94537, or you may contact Kathy Jang, Executive Director, at (510) 770-6160, or email cbcoutreach20@gmail.com.

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