

# 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 17, Issue 3

#### July - September 2017

### CBC Entry Wins 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade!



CBC organized local Chinese American organizations to get together for Entry #52 for Fremont's July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. Over 125 participants marched together and had a great time. See page 3 for more details on the parade.

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# President's Message



By Judy Lam

Dear CBC Members and Friends,

I would like to start with a big "Thank You" to Anna Muh and our whole team of coaches and volunteers in CBC's Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program for another successful completion of this Summer's program. Graduation day on July 22<sup>nd</sup> was filled with fun and excitement in the speeches and class presentations. Undeniably, there was a sense of pride of achievements from the students and their coaches alike. Special guest, Joan Wang, a core CBC veteran who was instrumental in starting this program, spoke at the graduation ceremony and brought us inspiration and a renewed purpose for this successful program.



Summer 2017 is quickly making its way for Fall to start. Most have caught up with family bonding time with some traveling and visitations. CBC members enjoyed marching in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. Whether folks were participating in the parade or cheering on as street side audience, it really was a blessing that all

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#### Cont'd from page 1...President's Message

residents in Fremont could freely take part in this patriotic celebration in the city that we hold dear. I was particularly impressed of how David Bonaccorsi was able to greet the crowd in Mandarin in a much more effective way than I could. Very fun indeed!



The first weekend in August was eventful. The annual CBC Summer Barbeque with our sister organization, the South Bay Chinese Club, took place on August 5<sup>th</sup>. Our close-knit relationship has been maintained throughout the years by our common focus in a better community for our next generation. It was wonderful for members of both organizations to spend time together.



Then it was the Fremont Festival of the Arts on August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. The City did an amazing job securing the safety of the 2-day Festival. On a personal note, Herbert Chiu's band as well as my flute ensemble were both honored to be invited on separate stages to perform. We were thankful for the experience, and especially appreciative to our CBC members who took the time to be in the audiences.



At the invitation of the San Jose Discovery Museum, CBC became a partner organizer in the Common Ground dinner project with 5 ethnic groups representing the Chinese, Vietnamese, Hispanic, Filipino and East Indian in our community. Under the leadership and coordination by Steve and Amy Cho, and with the help of David Sheen and Charles Liu, CBC reached out to 30 families to participate. Lena Zee, David Lam and I also had the pleasure of leading group conversations at the last of the 3 community dinners at the Museum where families of various ethnic groups sat together to share our challenges, hopes, and to appreciate our common values.



For more reading on the event, please see page 8 in this newsletter and the article in China Daily USA - (http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/opinion/2017-08/01/content\_30322454.htm).

CBC Board will be hosting events for all our general members to join. We value your participation and we look forward to seeing you.

Respectfully,

Judy Lam CBC President 2016-2017

# **CBC's Newest Members**

- Harrison Chou
- Shamsher Dhaka
- Midji Rovetta

Thank you for joining us in helping to make our community a better place to live.



## "We Are One" - 2017 Fremont July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade

By Steve & Amy Cho

CBC once again is proud to be a sponsor and a participant in the 2017 Fremont July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. The CBC entry won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Novelty Category!

As in previous years, CBC organized several local Chinese American organizations to get together and put Entry #52 into the parade. In the end, over 125 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 again held in Central Fremont.

It was exciting to meet early in the morning at the Fremont Main Library and prepare with many other entries. Excitement grew as the morning drew closer to parade time. Not only we chatted among ourselves, but we also had fun mingling with friends from other groups. It was fun to meet people that we hadn't seen for a while.

Entry #52 stretched nearly a city block. Red, white and blue colors were seen everywhere as each person carried a U.S. flag and a red, white and blue spinning pinwheel.

CBC members led the entry with CBC's banner and with "Uncle Sam" leading the way.

CBC's sister organization, South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) followed up.

SBCC was followed by the Citizens for Better Communicators Toastmaster Club (CBC-TM). CBC-TM featured a decorated vehicle with many posters that engaged the public. Special thanks to Brian Goodman for the use of his car.

Following the CBC-TM were students from the Friends of Children with Special Needs (FCSN) also participated in the parade.

Another special group was the Chinese Immersion Parents Council of Fremont (CIPCF). The CIPCF supports the Mandarin Immersion Program at Azevada Elementary School.

After the parade, all CBC participants were treated to a cup of ice cream. That made a fun day even more fun. Who could resist a cup of cold ice cream on a hot day? The ice cream was a big hit with everyone!

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



#### Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program A Success!



By Albert Wu, Program Manager

The Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program (TYLP) has concluded another successful year!

Congratulations to the Graduation Showcase winners: Jessie Cheng (Best Speech), Bob Chen (Best Table Topic), Jonathan Ng (Best Evaluation); MIST (Most Improved Student Toastmaster) recipients: Ryan La (class 1), Nishil Thumu (class 2), Chloe Chan (class 3); and LIST (Leading Inspiring Supporting Toastmaster) recipients: Sara Fang (class 1), Amy Chan (class 2), Jonathan Ng (class 3). To all students: Thank you for your hard work!



We celebrated the TYLP's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary during our graduation ceremony, and we were thrilled to have been joined by CBC board members: Lily Mei (Fremont Mayor), Amy Cho, Steve Cho (former Fremont Vice Mayor), David Lam, Richard Muh, Wing Ng, Raj Salwan (Fremont City Council), Yang Shao (FUSD Vice President), Henry Yin, and Lena Zee; CBC President Judy Lam; former CBC President Ivy Wu (FUSS founder and former FUSD board member); and former CBC board member and founder of the TYLP, Joan Wang.



As we look back at the past 20 years, we are reminded of the dedication and contributions of so many individuals who have made this program possible. From sponsors and volunteers to parents and the community, countless hours have been put into planning, funding, coordinating, implementing, and supporting this program. Over the last 20 years, this program has touched so many people. It has brought together volunteers, parents and students in cooperation and friendship; helped students grow and develop public speaking skills; and paved the way for future leaders in their individual endeavors. All the while, the TYLP has continued to evolve through parent/student feedback and new ideas from the volunteer and coaching teams. This year, a special emphasis was placed on student collaboration and fostering their relationships. Students were provided more opportunities to work with one another through icebreakers and group projects.





We want to thank the Volunteer Core Team (Alice Cheung, Jenny Gau, Anny Kan, Amanda Kwan, Wendy Lee, Wing Ng) for your enthusiasm and tireless efforts; the Coaching Team (Mary Verghese – Head Coach, Susan Brooks, Robert Kaiser, Nikhil George, Linda Ko, Cara Wasden) for your great ideas and your dedication to the students; and the parents and students for your participation and support. Without you, this program would not have been possible.

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#### Con't from page 4...Toastmasters

Special thanks to Friends of Children with Special Needs (FCSN) and FCSN Co-President Jim Chiao for the use of their facilities and for their continued support.

And a very special thank you to Anna Muh, TYLP Program Director. Your leadership, contributions, and commitment to the TYLP have made this program into the success that it is today.



### **Toastmasters Semiannual Competition**

Hello CBC, I am Alfred Garrett, the incoming president of Citizens for Better Communicators – our Toastmasters club.



One of my first assignments as president is to preside over our club contest which will be held on Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. We conduct contests twice a year and this time around we will compete for best humorous speech and best speech evaluator. Being able to effectively evaluate a speech is something many struggle with so we practice this every week. We also like to have a fun time at our club, adding humor to one's story is, therefore, of equal importance. The winners will go on to the area level and from there all the way to the District 57 level where they will compete with the best from Fremont to the Oregon border.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our contestants and other participants who make the contest run smoothly. It is also a great opportunity for you all to see some funny speeches and learn some evaluation techniques. I invite you all to come see us on any Saturday at 10:15 a.m. -11:45 a.m. (there is never a charge to visit, nominal charge to become a member). We meet at Unitek College, 4670 Auto Mall Pkwy, Fremont, CA 94538 Room B138. Look forward to meeting you all and feel free to tell your friends! All are welcome!

Visit <u>http://654714.toastmastersclubs.org/</u> for more information.

### **Homeless Shelter Meal Service**

By Steve Cho

Some people have asked, "What programs does CBC do to benefit and help the community?"

One such program is "Feed the Homeless" at ABODE Sunrise Housing (ASH). ASH is a homeless shelter that provides much needed relief to families who find themselves without a roof over their heads. For whatever reason(s) how/why this situation came to be, ASH is there to help with shelter, with food and with other resources to help the families get back on their feet. Support for this shelter comes from multiple sources. One of the sources is Citizens for Better Community (CBC).

CBC has been providing on-site cooked meals to the residents at ASH for over 10 years. Members of CBC and other friends have volunteered their time and energy to make it more pleasant for the families at the shelter. Although CBC only does food preparation a few times a year, the ASH staff appreciates our continued involvement. The residents appreciate getting a delicious, nourishing hot meal (oven baked chicken with special Chinese sauce, steamed cabbage with bacon bits, fried rice, dessert).





Of course, the above would not be possible without the help of dedicated volunteers. The volunteers are led by Sherry Chang and Yvonne Ng. Other volunteers in 2016 and 2017 include. Ann Chang, Cathy Wang, Connor Wong, Eva Ng, James Chen, Jessie Cheng, Mariya Malik, Molly Ng, Raymond Kuan, Sam Ng, Sami Malik, Simi Sethu, Vanessa Su, Vincent Tsai.





Marina Foods in Warm Springs, Fremont, needs to be recognized for donating the fried rice. Thank you to Whisky Ho for making the arrangements to have the rice donated.

The last meal service in 2017 that CBC will be serving is on:

• Sunday, October 29 (dinner)

If you would like to help in this volunteer effort, please contact <u>sherry.y.chang@gmail.com</u>.

Big thanks to Sherry and Yvonne!



# **CBC and SBCC Annual BBQ**

By Steve Cho

The traditional joint annual CBC and SBCC (South Bay Chinese Club) BBQ was held on Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at the Quail Run HOA Clubhouse from 12 noon to 3 p.m. Over 125 people attended the event. What a crowd!

Hamburgers, hot dogs and hot & spicy chicken wings were the featured items. Tossed green salad, potato salad and mixed veggies were also part of the menu. Desserts included ice cream sandwiches, fruit cups, watermelon, lemon cake and a variety of cookies. No one went away hungry!

Thank you to all the volunteers who pitched in to help in the kitchen. Special thanks go out to the 3 "musketeers" (Randy Sabado, Joe Zerda, and Richard Muh) who stood out in the hot sun to make the hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken wings.



The BBQ was an opportunity to introduce some new faces to both CBC and SBCC. It was also an opportunity to rekindle old friendships from past years. Multiple generations of family and community members were there. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed the camaraderie of all.



# **CBC Internship Program**

CBC places great importance on fostering the spirit of service and leadership in youth and is committed to providing opportunities for students to become active in their community. CBC sponsors its annual Summer Internship Program for high school students in which they are awarded internships in city or state legislative offices.

This year, we had 4 outstanding and enthusiastic interns in the program. CBC is very proud of the interns' commitments and achievements. They will be our future leaders and they will contribute to our communities when they are ready and able.

Upon completion of their service hours, they will receive certificates at CBC's annual Intern Recognition Luncheon to be held in November or December.

CBC truly appreciates the support from the following legislative offices: Senator Bob Wieckowski, Assembly Member Bill Quirk and Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty.

# **CBC Member Makes History**

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, CBC Vice President, Herbert Chiu, and the IdeaBand were the first Chinese American band in 34 years to ever perform at the Fremont Festival of Arts. Fremont Mayor Lily Mei and Councilmember David Bonaccorsi, both CBC Board members, were on hand to welcome the band while IdeaBand thrilled the crowd with lively music. Other IdeaBand members include Bass Chorng, Glen Young, Jesse Ku, Fred Santos, Jason Kei and Eunice Felise.

CBC is proud of Herbert and the IdeaBand for making history!



### San Jose Children's Discovery Museum – Common Ground Program "Community Dinner Conversations"

#### By Steve Cho

CBC partners with the San Jose Children's Discovery Museum (SJCDM) on a special program - "Common Ground Program." The purpose of the program was to bring together new and recent immigrant families to share their experiences about coming and living in America. One hundred fifty families from 5 different ethnic groups (Chinese, Vietnamese, Filipino, East Indian, Hispanic) were invited to participate. The program was conducted over 3 separate nights. Each night had 50 families (10 families from each of the 5 ethnic groups).

The program took place at the Children's Museum on the evenings of July 16<sup>th</sup>, July 30<sup>th</sup> and August 12<sup>th</sup>. Each night started with a family style dinner featuring a dish from each of the 5 ethnic groups. Families were encouraged to sit with families from a different ethnic group. This was to allow for interaction among each other. Language facilitators were on hand to lend a hand if English posed a problem. The museum's Head Chef, Larry Bain, and his staff prepared the food. It was great and very tasty!



After the dinner, the children were separated into 3 age groups (2-4, 5-7, 8+) and were escorted out to play in the museum... without their parents. All indications were that the kids had a fantastic time in the museum.

While the kids played, parents gathered in the courtyard of the museum and sat in tables of 8 to 10 people. Each person was asked to pick up a food related artifact used in food preparation. All the artifacts were loaned to the museum by the organizers of the different ethnic groups. To start the discussion each person was asked to share his or her memories about whatever artifact he/she picked up. This acted as

an "ice breaker" and generated an automatic warm response from everyone. Other topics of discussion included: (1) What was your first impression of America when you arrived, (2) What do you miss most about your home country, (3) What..... The discussion yielded many and varied responses. One of the more hilarious was "people actually obey the traffic laws here; in my country, anything goes." Another was "people eat so much here and still waste a lot of food."





Feedback from all families will be used to curate A Seat at the Table traveling art exhibit that will share their experiences and stories and spark dialogue about the rich diverse culture living together in the Bay Area.

All families who attended and participated were awarded a special prize of an Annual Family Pass to the museum. The kids can come back to play free for 1 year.

CBC was happy to be part of this communitybuilding program. Thanks go out to Bridget Moore, Exhibits Administrative Assistant, for inviting CBC to participate. Thanks also goes out to Anna Muh, Richard Muh, Judy Lam, David Lam, David Sheen, Charles Liu, Lena Zee, Amy Cho and Steve Cho for their help in organizing CBC's participation.

#### **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."

#### 2016-2017 Board Directory

<b>President:</b> Judy Lam(510) 979-9263
Vice President: Herbert Chiu(510) 471-3777
<b>Secretary:</b> Wilson Hu(925) 480-7305
Treasurer: Steve Cho(510) 797-6426
<b>Past President:</b> Ivy Wu(510) 252-9890
Legal Counsel David Sheen(510) 676-2178
Executive Director Kathy Jang(510) 790-0740

#### 2016-2017 Board of Directors

David Bonaccorsi Cecilia Chang Herbert Chiu Amy Cho Steve Cho Whisky Ho Larry Hsu Wilson Hu Robert Kaiser David Lam Judy Lam Cecilia Leon Charles Liu

Gerry Low-Sabado Lily Mei Anna Muh Richard Muh Wing Ng Raj Salwan Yang Shao David Sheen Albert Wang Marvin Wong Ivy Wu Henry Yin Lena Zee

#### 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 kjang@cbcsfbay.org.

Publisher: Kathy Jang

Committee: Herbert Chiu, Steve Cho, Albert Wang

**Contributors/Photos:** Herbert Chiu, Amy Cho, Steve Cho, Alfred Garrett, Judy Lam, Anna Muh, Albert Wu

#### Committees

Education: Yang Shao(510) 687-9184
Health: Herbert Chiu(510) 471-3777
Business: Henry Yin(510) 676-7139
Community Involvement: Albert Wang(510) 657-6610
Culture Exchange: Lena Zee(510) 421-6666
Youth Group: Anna Muh(510) 468-6666
Social Activities: Amy Cho(510) 797-6426
Spring Celebration:
Herbert Chiu(510) 471-3777 David Bonaccorsi(510) 791-1888

## **Calendar of Events**

Toastmasters (Citizens for Better Communicators) When: any Saturday (10:15 am – 11:45 am) Where: Unitek College (Room B138) 4670 Auto Mall Pkwy, Fremont More info: http://654714.toastmastersclubs.org/

Homeless Shelter Meal Service When: Sunday, October 29, 2017 (dinner) Where: ABODE Sunrise Housing Contact: sherry.y.chang@gmail.com



Back to School... Please drive safely

## **Upcoming CBC Meetings**

\*Note: Meetings are held bi-monthly with special meetings to be determined.

Prior to each meeting, there will be set-up and a social "hour" from 7:15 p.m. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at **Carlton Plaza, 3800 Walnut Avenue, Fremont.** 

~ Wednesday, September 6, 2017 \*

- (special meeting for Board members only)
- ~ Wednesday, October 4, 2017
- ~ Wednesday, December 6, 2017
- ~ Wednesday, February 7, 2018

General meeting from 7:30 p.m. is open to guests and CBC members. To be followed by a meeting for the Board.

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL (November 1, 2017– October 31, 2018)

New

Renewal

If you like what you se 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
- □ \$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:

	Last Name	First Name	Chinese Name	
Spouse:				
-	Last Name	First Name	Chinese Name	
Address:				
	Street	City	State Zip	1
	Home Phone #	Office Phone #	e-mail	