



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 21, Issue 4

October – December 2021

Save the Date!

CBC's Spring Celebration

Saturday, April 30, 2022

“The Silk Road Journey”

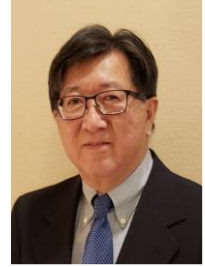


Have you been wondering what it's like to travel on the Silk Road? Spring Celebration Co-Chairs Herbert Chiu and Kathy Kimberlin, and a few Committee members have experienced it themselves. They will take you on this beautiful journey without having to travel thousands of miles!

Please plan to join us for a wonderful evening!

President's Message

By David Lam
CBC President 2020-2021



Dear CBC Members and Friends,

It is with great sadness to announce the recent passing of two of our long serving Board Members, Cecilia Chang and Gerry Low-Sabado. Both had served CBC and our community with excellence. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families. (Their brief backgrounds can be found on page 4.)

Due to the vaccine and declining transmission rates, our schools are now opened for in person session. Unlike our neighboring counties, Santa Clara and Contra Costa, Alameda County is taking a “wait and see” position whether to implement a vaccine mandate. We hope Alameda County will continue this position since we have the highest vaccination rate (at 91.3% with at least one shot) in the Bay Area.

The sudden US military pull out from Afghanistan resulted in a mass exodus of Afghan refugees coming into our country. At this time, most of the refugees are housed in military bases in Wisconsin and Texas, though some have already arrived in Fremont. The latest announcement from DHS is that 5,255 refugees will be resettled in California and likely more will be coming. On September 19, CBC, partnering with other organizations hosted a fund-raising event to prepare for providing assistance to the incoming Afghans. Kudos to Yang Shao and Herbert Chiu for organizing the event. See page 3 for additional details on the event.

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Despite the pandemic limitations, the Gavel Club successfully completed the CBC Toastmasters International program this summer with more than 20 students. The group has reconvened and has met in person, outdoors, once at Quarry Lake, and more are to be planned. The Club meets every other Saturday afternoon during the school year (no class in Dec). Thank you to Midji Rovetta for her planning and coordination as the facilitator, providing continuous training to our youths in public speaking and leadership. (Online registration can be found [here](#).)



It has been an honor and privilege to serve as the President of CBC for the past 2 years. I set my objectives at the beginning of the presidency to strengthen the foundation of our organization. First off, we ensured that our Executive Director had the right office equipment to perform her administrative responsibilities by purchasing a laptop and MS Office suite. We completely revamped and upgraded our website with more features, customization and expandable. We started our budget process before the Shelter in Place order. Subsequently, many of our regular programs were put on hold, and therefore, the budget had to be revisited and could not be finalized. The basic template of the budget was developed and in place, which should make it easy to complete in the coming year. The original plan to host an internal Retreat to refine the CBC Mission did not take place, also due to the Shelter in Place restrictions.

The past two years have been eventful with COVID, Shelter-in-Place, Anti-Asian, Presidential election, Afghanistan, Recall election, Drought, Dixie Fire, and many other events. With all that happened, we could only look forward to a better year in 2022 with new opportunities and challenges.

Herbert Chiu will be taking on the presidential position and I will continue to support Herbert and the Executive team, and CBC as best as I can.

Best regards and stay healthy.
~ David Lam

New CBC Executive Board

The CBC Board of Directors approved the following Executive Officer appointments for 2021-2022 which will be effective November 1, 2021:

President: Herbert Chiu
Co-VP: Midji Rovetta
Co-VP: Teresa Eng
Co-Treasurer: Steve Cho
Co-Treasurer: Julie Wang
Secretary: Wilson Hu
Past President: David Lam

Many thanks to the outgoing Board members who have unselfishly served on the Board for the past two years. Those re-elected are: Cecilia Leon, Charles Liu, Wing Ng and Lena Zee. The remaining Board positions are in the process of being confirmed and will be announced at a later date.

CBC Board also welcomes the following appointed Board members who shall serve a one-year term: Chunchi Ma, Sue Kwong and Yonggang Zhang.

Homeless Shelter Meal Service

Taking COVID restrictions into consideration, Sherry Chang, Samson & Yvonne Ng, a couple of CBC Board members and high school students continue to prepare and serve meals at Sunrise Village in Fremont. The students receive community service hours for volunteering.

The last meal service for 2021 will be on:
~ Sunday, October 24 (lunch)

CBC will continue to serve meals in 2022 on the following dates:

- ~ Sunday, February 13th (lunch)
- ~ Sunday, April 10th (lunch)
- ~ Sunday, June 12th (lunch)
- ~ Saturday, July 30th (dinner)

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



Help Afghan Refugees

By Chunchi Ma, Past President, Silicon Valley Huaren Rotary Club and translated by Herbert Chiu

Along with the celebration of Mid-Autumn Festival, Citizens for Better Community, Silicon Valley Huaren Rotary Club, APAPA CA, Smart & Learn Education Center, Joy Holiday, Maiwand Market and Primetime Entertainment held a community charity event on Sunday, September 19, 2021 in North Fremont. Close to 200 people attended the event featuring live performances by students of Smart & Learn Educational Center and local artist Jimmy Shao.



Mayor Lily Mei, Vice Mayor Yang Shao, Council member Teresa Keng and Kathy Kimberlin (Field Director District 1, Alameda County Supervisor David Haubert) attended the event. They all emphasized the importance of the Fremont community extending a helping hand to the soon to arrive Afghan refugees. The Fremont Human Services started the Afghan Help Fund a couple of months ago, and have already raised over \$220K from the community according to Mayor Mei. Mr. Tariq (Mohammad) Mehdavi from Afghan Seniors of the Bay Area and Hamida Obeid of the Afghan Elderly Association also shared their stories of the most current situations in Afghan and the urgent needs such as mental health counseling, employment opportunities, shoes, warm clothes, blankets, etc... of the Afghan refugees in this country.



Moon Cakes and Afghan Sweet Bread, donated by Herbert Chiu, Chiang Foundation and Maiwand Market, were served to the attendees in individually wrapped packages.

Around \$3,500 was raised from the event and the organizers hope to raise additional funds to reach the goal of \$5,000. You can help by sending your donation check as follows:

Payable to: Fremont Family Foundation
(Memo: Afghan Refugees Help Fund)

Mail to:
CBC
PO Box 1
Fremont CA 94537

"The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything!"
- A. Einstein

CBC Fondly Remembers Two Women Who Made A Difference

CBC expresses our deepest sympathy to the Chang and Sabado families for the recent loss of their loved ones. They will be deeply missed by all who knew them.

Cecilia Chang (1950-2021)

Submitted by Dan & Ted Chang



Cecilia Chang 李玉清 passed away on August 17, 2021. Cecilia is survived by husband Hsi-Tien (aka Dan), sister Ida, brother Hardy, sons Franklin and Ted, and grandchildren Hudson and Linus. She is also survived by many cousins, nieces, nephews, friends, and her caregivers who cared for her in the final years as she confronted a degenerative condition.

Cecilia was born in Hong Kong and came to San Diego where she enrolled in community college at San Diego City College and met Hsi-Tien (aka Dan) who was at UC San Diego. They married in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Cecilia was a dedicated mother, raising her two boys there and helping to establish the Albuquerque Chinese School. She also founded a computer company that grew to over 35 employees over the course of 14 years. When the Chang family moved to Fremont, she became an activist and helped lead a national mobilization of Asian Americans and allies on the Wen Ho Lee case. The events of that case are now taught in universities as a case study in Asian American history. Her civil rights work eventually broadened into an organization named Justice for New Americans. A patron of the arts, Cecilia frequented art galleries around NM and enjoyed theater, musicals, opera and dance performances. She loved drawing, painting, singing, photography, and dance. She also enjoyed hiking, camping and international travel. Cecilia was an active member of Centerville Presbyterian Church in Fremont.



Gerry Low-Sabado (1949-2021)

Courtesy of Randy Sabado and Tri-City Voice



On September 7, 2021, Gerry Low-Sabado passed away peacefully with her family by her bedside. She is survived by her loving husband, Randy, daughter Amber and son Brandon, three sisters and extended family and friends.

Gerry is a 5th generation descendant of the first documented Chinese woman (Quock Mui) born on the Monterey Peninsula. She was passionate about bringing awareness to the history of the Chinese in the Monterey area and the contributions they made to the development of the U.S.

Gerry was a Past President of CBC (2011-2012) and recipient of CBC's 2008 "Citizen of the Year Award". She was an avid supporter of the Mission and Vision Statement of CBC. She believed that CBC embodied the best community service organization to combine sharing Chinese history and culture while also promoting and advocating for social justice and "change with kindness".

Before her retirement, Gerry was an educator and advocate for early childhood education and after her retirement became involved in advocating for social change and preserving and telling the story of Chinese in America.

Gerry loved to take pictures, spend time with family, collect Christmas ornaments, play the cymbals and perform with the Monterey Bay Lion Dance Group.



Monterey County Weekly Journalist Pam Marino shares her story on Gerry [here](#).

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.”

2020-2021 Board Directory

- President:**
David Lam.....(510) 320-7899
- Vice President:**
Herbert Chiu.....(510) 471-3777
- Secretary:**
Wilson Hu.....(925) 480-7305
- Treasurer:**
Thomas Tang(510) 438-8998
- Past President:**
Charles Liu(510) 938-6668
- Legal Counsel**
David Sheen(510) 676-2178
- Executive Director**
Kathy Jang.....(510) 790-0740

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
- Membership:** Wing Ng.....(510) 326-1133
- Culture Exchange:** Lena Zee(510) 421-6666
- Youth Internship:** Charles Liu(510) 938-6668
- TYLP/Gavel Club:** Midji Rovetta.....(510) 798-7871
- Social Activities:**
Cecilia Leon(510) 445-1330
- Spring Celebration:**
Herbert Chiu(510) 471-3777
Kathy Kimberlin(510) 552-0221

2020-2021 Board of Directors

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Herbert Chiu | Wing Ng |
| Steve Cho | Midji Rovetta |
| Teresa Eng | Raj Salwan |
| Whisky Ho | Yang Shao |
| Wilson Hu | Thomas Tang |
| Kathy Kimberlin | Albert Wang |
| David Lam | Julie Wang |
| Cecilia Leon | Marvin Wong |
| Henry Liang | Henry Yin |
| Charles Liu | Lena Zee |
| Lily Mei | Yajing Zhang |
| Anna Muh | |

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.

Publisher: Kathy Jang

Committee: Herbert Chiu, Amy Cho, Steve Cho, Albert Wang

Contributors/Photos: Dan Chang, Ted Chang, Herbert Chiu, David Lam, Pam Marino (Staff Writer) and Monterey County Weekly, Midji Rovetta, Randy Sabado, Tri-City Voice, Lena Zee

Upcoming CBC Meetings

CBC Board of Directors meet virtually 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 are as follows:

- ~ Wednesday, November 3, 2021
- ~ Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- ~ Wednesday, January 5, 2022

Please email cbcoutreach20@gmail.com to request virtual meeting information, if you would like to join us.