



# 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 12, Issue 1**

**January - March 2012**

## *CBC's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Celebration*

*Saturday, April 21, 2012*

"Cocktails and Couture: A Night of Glamour" will be this year's theme! A runway fashion show will feature traditional Asian and modern style clothing from local retailers. CBC will also recognize Bernie Dutra as CBC's Citizen of the Year and Anna Wang as CBC's Volunteer of the Year. Sponsorship details will soon be available. For more information, contact [kjang25@yahoo.com](mailto:kjang25@yahoo.com) or (510) 790-0740.



## *Gung Hay Fat Choy!*

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## **President's Message**



*By Gerry Low-Sabado*

Dear Members, Friends & Supporters,

Happy Chinese New Year! Happy Year of the Dragon!

Thanks to Amy Cho, AlieneYee, Cecilia Leon, Josephine Chou, Peggy Chiou and Steve Cho for organizing the CBC, SBCC, and Fremont Main Library Chinese New Year Celebration. Each year the community enjoys such a rich and exciting opportunity to learn about the Chinese culture and traditions! Much gratitude to all the volunteers whose combined efforts help to educate the community about the Chinese legacy.

We are honored that California State Assemblyman Bob Wieckowski selected CBC as the "Community Partner of the Year" and presented the proclamation to Past President Tim Tran and me at his State of the Assembly Address. This award recognizes the significant contributions CBC has made to the people of the 20<sup>th</sup> Assembly District and the State of California. Thanks to ALL of CBC's Past Presidents, Executive Board Members, Board Members and CBC Members who have proved to be citizens for a better community and have worked to raise CBC to this level of recognition. We are accomplishing CBC's Vision Statement which is "CBC will be a model of excellence in community service by facilitating and motivating Chinese American involvement in the community."

We are saddened at the passing of Mayor Bob Wasserman who served in many roles of leadership in our community as well as having been a CBC member and friend. CBC has sent flowers and condolences to his family.

*President's Message continued on Page 2*

Don't miss our upcoming Sweet Tomatoes Fun-Raiser. Bring your family and friends on **Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>** to Sweet Tomatoes near Raley's from 5 – 8 p.m. Join us in eating a healthy meal, socializing with CBC friends, and making new friends! Sweet Tomatoes will donate 15% of the sales to CBC.

I will be speaking at the Chinese American Museum of Northern California in Marysville on **Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>** about "Reclaiming Chinese American history--one activist's experience." Join me in a day of workshops promoting preservation and Chinese American History.

Mark **Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>** on your calendars to attend CBC's Spring Celebration. The committee has been working hard to create an elegant and fun event. Congratulations to Bernie Dutra, Citizen of the Year, and Anna Wang, Volunteer of the Year! They will be recognized at the Spring Celebration.

I invite you to join me at the Third Annual Walk of Remembrance of Pacific Grove's Chinese Fishing Village on **Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** at 11:00 a.m. The event will begin at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History where I will make my By Light of Lanterns presentation. We will then walk towards Lover's Point and onto the Recreation Trail to the area next to the site where the Chinese Fishing Village once stood. The annual walk was conceived to educate the community about the village and to remember the Chinese people who started the commercial fishing industry in the Monterey Bay area.

May this new year of the Dragon bring Good Health, Happiness, Love, Comfort, and Contentment to you.

Gratefully,

*Gerry Low-Sabado*

Gerry Low-Sabado  
CBC President 2011-2012

## Legal Assistance for Seniors Gala

*By Dorothea Tiong*

CBC was a Bronze Citizenship Sponsor of Legal Assistance for Seniors' 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on November 4, 2011, at the Oakland Marriott City Center. CBC President, Gerry Low-Sabado, and CBC Member, Angela Yang, joined in the fun celebration, which included guest photos, cocktail auction, wine ring toss, 52-card draw raffle, live auction with a professional

auctioneer, and a live band with dancing to conclude the evening's festivities. New friendships were made and a good time was had by all in support of Legal Assistance for Seniors' continued mission to serve the senior community.

Legal Assistance for Seniors (LAS) is a non-profit organization based in Oakland that offers free legal services and healthcare education and counseling to seniors. The goal of LAS is to ensure that all seniors will be able to live with safety, dignity, and the greatest possible independence, regardless of their economic, social, or health circumstances. LAS is the only agency in Alameda County to provide free legal services to seniors in the areas of Guardianship, Elder Abuse, Consumer Law, Health and Immigration Law. In addition to legal services, LAS' Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program (HICAP) reaches over 10,000 Alameda County residents annually through counseling, community education and outreach services. HICAP provides free and unbiased community education and individual counseling to Medicare and other health insurance program recipients to enable them to make informed choices, and also provides advocacy when their health care benefits and rights are threatened or denied. LAS attorneys and HICAP counselors hold monthly appointments at each of the senior centers around Alameda County, including the Fremont Senior Center, to assist seniors with their legal and healthcare issues. If a senior is in need, private appointments and home visits are also available.

For more information on Legal Assistance for Seniors, visit [www.lashicap.org](http://www.lashicap.org).



*L to R: CBC President Gerry Low-Sabado, Mrs. Dorothy Eng and CBC Members Angela Yang and Dorothea Tiong*

## APAPA Invites You to Support the 1882 Project

*Submitted by Mr. Ching-Lin Chen*

Many people think that the "1882 Project" has succeeded in convincing Congress to formally apologize for the passage of the Chinese Exclusion Act and related discriminatory legislation. However, that would be a misunderstanding. The fact is that the Senate passed Senate Res 201, but the House has not yet passed the companion resolution, Res 282. We need to act quickly and encourage the House of Representatives to pass that bill.

The 1882 Project is a nonpartisan, grassroots effort focused on educating lawmakers and the public about the Chinese Exclusion Laws and the impact such legislation had on history. Several national civil rights organizations spearhead the 1882 Project: the Chinese American Citizens Alliance (CACA, 美洲同源總會), the Committee of 100 (C-100, 百人會), the National Council of Chinese Americans (NCCA, 美國華人全國委員會), and the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA, 美華協會), among others.

On May 26, 2011, U.S. Reps. Judy Chu (D-CA), Judy Biggert (R-IL), and Mike Coffman (R-CO), along with Senators Feinstein (D-CA) and Brown (R-MA), announced the introduction of the resolutions (Senate Res 201 and House Res 282), calling on Congress to formally acknowledge and express regret for the passage of a series of laws during the late 19th Century that violated the fundamental civil rights of Chinese-American settlers.

On October 6, 2011, the Senate passed Res 201 by unanimous consent. The goal of the 1882 Project now is to promote the passage of House Res 282, as well as to raise greater public awareness. These two tasks require more advocacy and mobilization.

Only five times in American history has Congress issued formal apologies through legislation: in 1988 for putting Japanese-Americans in internment camps during World War II; in 1993 for overthrowing the Native Hawaiian monarchy; in 2006 for enslaving African-Americans from 1619 through 1865.; in 2009 for two and a half centuries of the slavery system in America; and in 2010 for the unfair treatment of Native Americans. If Res 282 is passed by the House of Representatives, it would be the sixth such case in

American history. Successful passage of the resolution would not only make history, however, but also help ensure the continued dignity and civil rights of Americans of Chinese descent.

Res 282 currently sit in the House Judiciary Committee (23 republicans and 16 Democrats). It can be marked up or sent directly to the floor without a hearing. The committee chair, Lamar Smith of Texas, is currently deciding how he wants to proceed. As such, the lobbying efforts of the 1882 Project are focused on the members of the House Judiciary Committee.

APAPA formed a special committee under the guidance of the Founding Chairman, Mr. C.C. Yin and the Executive Committee of APAPA Board, to work in collaboration with the steering team of the 1882 Project. Messrs. Ching-Lin Chen and Don Sun serve as chair and vice chair of this committee, respectively.

All organizations involved in the 1882 Project are asking their members and supporters to reach out and find voters in the congressional districts of Judiciary Committee members and communicate with their offices. Any person who wants to contact their Representative can follow the suggestions in the website [www.1882project.org](http://www.1882project.org). A simple way is to send an e-mail to [apapa1882@yahoo.com](mailto:apapa1882@yahoo.com) and enclose an English name, address, and phone number. The 1882 Project Committee of APAPA will go through the necessary procedure to deliver the message. The individual's Representative will then know that their constituent supports Res 282.

APAPA would greatly appreciate any individuals' or organizations' support of the 1882 Project. For more information, please contact Mr. Ching-Lin Chen at [chenchingline@yahoo.com](mailto:chenchingline@yahoo.com).

## CBC Welcomes New Members

Shiaw-Min and ChiChih Chen & Family  
YenYiang and Grace Chiao & Family  
Chien-Mei Cram  
Hastings Terrace/East Apartments (c/o Jim Lee)  
Wilson Hu and Agnes Toan & Family  
Aliene Yee

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

## **CBC Named 2011 “Community Partner of the Year”**

*Remarks by Trustee Ivy Wu,  
Fremont Unified School Board*

*Note: This award was presented to CBC on December 15, 2011, at James Logan High School.*

Good evening. My name is Ivy Wu. I serve on the Fremont Unified School District Board of Trustees, and I am also the Vice-President of Citizens for Better Community. I would like to thank Assemblymember Wieckowski for honoring CBC as “Community Partner of the Year.”

CBC is a volunteer-based non-profit community organization that was formed in 1992 by a small group of Chinese American individuals who sought to share their rich culture and heritage by recruiting and promoting Chinese American consciousness in our local community.

CBC's passion to get involved and contribute to a united community are embodied in its message which is to sponsor and promote events with an emphasis on education, health, business and community involvement.

To meet the growing and changing needs in our community, CBC has partnered with other local

organizations and participated in many successful events including Voter Registration Drive, Relay for Life, Make a Difference Day, Fremont Complete Count Census 2010, and jointly founded the East Bay Voter Education Consortium.

CBC also provides various seminars and programs such as Health Fairs, Chinese Cultural programs, Youth Toastmaster Leadership Program, Citizens for Better Communicators Toastmasters, to name a few.

One of CBC's most successful programs is the Student Internship Program. This vigorous program submerges students into a hands-on experience at the offices of government at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as with the Fremont Chamber of Commerce. Graduates gain so much knowledge and experience in these fields that their leadership skills get closer to their full potential. It is aiding in the development in the leaders of tomorrow that will be the lasting legacy of CBC.

I want to also take a moment and acknowledge the leadership of outgoing President Tim Tran for the last two years. During his tenure as President, CBC has expanded its membership, intern program, and maintained its active role in community service. It is with honor that I call up Mr. Tim Tran and our new President, Mrs. Gerry Low-Sabado, to receive this resolution authored by Assemblymember Bob Wieckowski.



***Congratulations to  
Citizens for Better  
Community!***

***Thank you for  
making a difference  
in our community!***

*L to R: CBC Vice-President Ivy Wu, Assemblymember Bob Wieckowski, CBC's Past President Tim Tran, CBC President Gerry Low-Sabado and State Senator Ellen Corbett.*

## CBC Toastmasters Update

By Vaidy Venkatesan  
President, CBC Toastmasters Club



CBC Toastmasters has some more great news from recent weeks! ChenChen Fan who was the previous President of this Toastmasters Club has won 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Humorous Speech Contest held at the District 57 Fall Conference at the Maritime Academy in Vallejo, California. ChenChen had previously won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the division level Humorous Speech Contest for Division A within District 57.



ChenChen pictured with International President-Elect, John Lau, DTM (Distinguished Toastmaster) after receiving her award from the contest.

CBC Toastmasters Club meets on Saturday mornings (except on long weekends) from 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at Northwestern Polytechnic University, Room 312 at 47655-B Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont, CA. Guests are welcome to join these regular meetings.

More information on CBC Toastmasters Club is available at <http://cfbc.freetoasthost.info>.

## Christmas Party 2011 Filled with Singing

By Amy Cho



CBC and sister organization, South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC) recently held the 2011 Christmas party. The joint event is a tradition that members enjoy every year. Our Christmas party took place on December 10, 2011, at Aegis Gardens Retirement Home in Fremont.

This year's program featured a Sing Along for the residents as well as singing and dance performances by students of the Tri-City Chinese School. Under the

direction of Music Teacher Wei-Min Lu, members of the young children's choir also performed. The seniors' faces lit up when they saw the little children.



Ed Wong led this year's Sing Along. Esther Banuelos played the piano to accompany us. What would a Sing Along be without accompaniment! We sang many traditional Christmas carols because these are the tunes that many seniors know and request.

Santa then distributed a present to every senior. Picture after picture was taken as people wanted to get their own photograph with Santa (CBC and SBCC member Steve Cho).

The dinner was superb. CBC and SBCC brought hot, freshly cooked Chinese food and Aegis Gardens topped that off with even more entrees. Dessert, drink, holiday dinnerware and other materials were all provided by Aegis Gardens. It amounted to having something like a 9-course Chinese meal served by waiters in the cozy, festive dining room.

Unwrapped toys and food items were collected for the local Tri-City League of Volunteers (LOV) organization. Li Zhou Restaurant delivered the dishes to Aegis Gardens. We greatly appreciate Li Zhou in Fremont for making all these nice dishes and making sure they were warm for us to eat.

Committee members included: Maelene Wong, Lorrie Wong, Amy and Steve Cho, Aliene Yee, SBCC Past President Fran Gin, and CBC President Gerry Low-Sabado. Finally, thanks to all of Aegis Gardens' warm and energetic staff! Aegis Gardens' Director is Emilie Poon and the Program Activities Director is Amy Yang.

The Christmas party will be remembered well. It brought seniors together from many places. We did something for our community with the toy and food donations. It was FUN!

## Sweet Tomatoes FunRaiser



Come and bring your family and friends for a healthy meal at Sweet Tomatoes on **Wednesday, February 8, 2012**, from 5:00 p.m. – 8 p.m. (**Note:** If you'd like to meet fellow CBC members and friends, please plan to arrive between 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)

Just purchase a meal and a beverage and enjoy a great meal and help a great organization! Sweet Tomatoes will donate 15% of the sales to CBC.

Please bring the enclosed flyer with you (no coupons can be used for this event). Please read the guidelines on the bottom of the flyer.

## 2012 Toastmasters Youth Leadership Summer Program

By Irene Yung  
CBC Youth Group Chair



Toastmasters Youth Leadership Program (TYLP) has been a growing success these past summers. Citizens for Better Communicator Toastmasters continues to support our youth summer program every year. We are very fortunate to have dedicated and enthusiastic coaches, assistant coaches, and guest speakers involved in the Youth Leadership Program.

TYLP is a five-week summer program that meets Saturday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The program will start on June 16 and end in mid-July. This program is highly recommended for high school students, as well as incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders, who wish to take this great opportunity to build their communication and public speaking skills. Our coaches will create different activities to make the program very meaningful. A certificate will be awarded at the graduation ceremony after the students complete the Toastmasters requirement in July. Parents are always delighted to see their children develop self-confidence and improve public speaking skills year after year.

**SPACE IS LIMITED:** The TYLP has been a popular program in the past years. Last year, our enrollment of students was exceptionally high. We reached our capacity within days and had over 10 students on the waiting list. Eventually, due to the overwhelming

demand, we admitted a total of sixty students, which were divided into four classes.

The application can be downloaded at CBC's website during the week of **March 26, 2012**, at the following link: [www.cbcsfbay.org/youth.html](http://www.cbcsfbay.org/youth.html).

I would encourage all students to sign up as soon as applications are available. Please check the CBC website at [www.cbcsfbay.org](http://www.cbcsfbay.org) for the most up-to-date information.

If you have any questions, please contact Irene Yung at [CBC\\_ylp08@yahoo.com](mailto:CBC_ylp08@yahoo.com).

## Updated 2012 Schedule for Homeless Shelter Meal Service

The CBC Youth Group serves meals at Abode Services. The Homeless Shelter Meal Service allows high school students to participate in preparing and serving food to the homeless people. This is a good learning experience for the students and they will receive four community service hours upon completion.

The Youth Group will serve meals on the following days: **March 18th (lunch)**, April 29<sup>th</sup> (dinner), June 30<sup>th</sup> (dinner), July 29<sup>th</sup> (dinner), August 19<sup>th</sup> (lunch), September 29<sup>th</sup> (dinner), October 21<sup>st</sup> (lunch), December 29<sup>th</sup> (dinner).

If you are interested in helping, please contact Fendi Fuh at [FendiFuh@yahoo.com](mailto:FendiFuh@yahoo.com).

## SBCC 2011-2012 Scholarship Applications Available

CBC's sister organization, South Bay Chinese Club (SBCC), now has their 2011-2012 scholarship e-application available. The primary purpose of the South Bay Chinese Service Club is to award scholarships to graduating high school seniors of Chinese descent. Only students **residing in Fremont, Newark and Union City** or children of SBCC club members in good standing are eligible to apply. The actual number of scholarships will be determined by the amount of donations received.

Visit [www.sbclub.org](http://www.sbclub.org) for more information.



## Citizens for Better Community

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

### CBC Membership Dues

The new membership year began on November 1, 2011. The membership renewal form can be found on page 7 of this newsletter. 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. Thank you in advance for your support!

### **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: Northwestern Polytechnic University (Room 312)  
47655-B Warm Spring Blvd, Fremont  
Contact: Vaidy Venkatesan at [vaidy1@gmail.com](mailto:vaidy1@gmail.com)

#### **Sweet Tomatoes FunRaiser**

When: Wednesday, February 8, 2012 (5 pm – 8 pm)  
Where: Sweet Tomatoes (Paseo Padre Pkwy, Fremont)

#### **Fremont Education Foundation Gala**

When: Friday, February 24, 2012  
Where: Fremont Marriott  
Contact: Fremont Education Foundation (510) 659-2561

#### **Homeless Shelter Meal Service**

When: Sunday, March 18, 2012 (lunch)  
Where: Abode Services  
Contact: [FendiFuh@yahoo.com](mailto:FendiFuh@yahoo.com)

#### **SBCC Scholarship Luncheon**

When: Saturday, April 28, 2012 (noon)  
Where: Newark's Courtyard by Marriott

### Upcoming CBC Meetings

*\*Note: Prior to each meeting, there will be set-up and a social "hour" from 7:15 p.m.*

#### **CBC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, February 1, 2012  
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

#### **CBC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, March 7, 2012  
Place: Carlton Plaza – 7:30 pm

#### **CBC Board Meeting**

Wednesday, April 4, 2012  
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](mailto:kjang25@yahoo.com).

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