



# ACA SPOTLIGHT



展望 密州美華協會通訊

Volume 2006, Issue 1  
Jan 2006

*A Bi-annual publication of the Association of Chinese Americans*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Anniversary & Award                 | 3  |
| Service Center Update               | 4  |
| Salute to Chinese American Veterans | 8  |
| H. S. Achievement Award             | 11 |
| Affirmative Action                  | 12 |
| Board Members elected               | 15 |

*Please share this publication with your friends and relatives. Send us their names and addresses if they are interested in ACA activities.*

ACA  
32585 Concord Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071

ACA Web Site Address:  
[www.ACADETROIT.org](http://www.ACADETROIT.org)

### Publication Staff

Desk Top Publishing: Kam Lee  
Mailing Coordinator:  
Kingman Yee

Articles, announcements for the July 2006 issue are **DUE June 1, 2006**

## President's Message

By Marie A. Weng



Dear ACA Members,  
Happy New Year to you and to your family. Many changes have taken place since our last issue of the Spotlight. You might have noticed that we skipped the October issue. We made the decision to convert the

Spotlight into a bi-annual publication. It will come out twice a year, in January and in July. Electronic means of communication such as the ACA group e-mail system and the ACA website [www.acadetroit.org](http://www.acadetroit.org) have greatly improved the speed and efficiency of our communication system and can save us over \$2,000/year. However because many of our members do not have access to a computer or simply prefer to receive hard copies we are continuing the practice of mailing out copies of the Spotlight twice a year.

As you can appreciate from reading Director Shenlin Chen's report in this issue, the Chinese Community Center has officially opened its doors on August 8<sup>th</sup> 2005. It is truly a labor of love that exemplifies the spirit of ACA and follows through on the vision set forth by its founders. As we still lean heavily on volunteers for our operations, we have discovered many unanticipated side benefits, such as a marked increase in our membership, donated furniture that just keeps on pouring in, people that come in to work, to paint, to clean, to weed and to do landscaping jobs. Most rewarding of all is the fact that we get to meet and to

know many talented volunteers who share our vision for hard work, for dedication and for generosity of spirit. Last but not least, our dispute with the city of Madison Heights on the tax exemption issue has been resolved. We have finally become classified as a tax-exempted organization.

This year, at the celebration '05 event, we successfully conducted our annual fundraising and proudly featured our WWII veteran ACA members to help mark the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of WWII. Many of our dignitaries who came to our event remarked that they did not know Chinese Americans served in WWII. Please refer to Edward Sing's article in this issue.

Members such as Roland Hwang et al. continue to serve at the State level as members of the Advisory Council for Asian Pacific American Affairs for Governor Grandholm. The council has successfully identified Asian Business, Asian Civil Rights, Asian Health, and Asian Immigration as priority issues and is working on specific sets of corrective recommendations to be forwarded to the Governor's office.

Last but not least, at our recent general election meeting held on December 4<sup>th</sup> 2005, we have elected 5 new board members and reelected another one for a second term. These elected board members are: Katherine Lee, Gracia Lee, Joan Wang, Shirley Yee, Jennifer Zaborny, Helen Zhou. Their biographies are published in this issue.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**President's message** Continue from page 1

You are all invited to join your fellow ACA members to celebrate the year of the Dog on Saturday January 28 2006 at the Golden Harvest Restaurant. Please see the announcement flier in this issue.

For more frequent and current news update on ACA, please click on [www.acadetroit.org](http://www.acadetroit.org)  
**Wishing you all a happy and healthy 0**



AP Councils



Tang Dynasty Dance, Chinese Folk Dance Group



Travor Lauer receiving outstanding corporation award



Wushu Martial Art

**Association of Chinese Americans, Inc.  
 Detroit Chapter of the OCA**

Officers

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| President           | Marie A. Weng       |
| Exec. V-P Finance   | Roland Hwang        |
| V-P Public Relation | Jennifer G. Zaborny |
| V-P Comm. Services  | Joan Wang           |
| Treasurer           | Gracia Lee          |
| Secretary           | Shirley Yee         |

**Board of Directors**

- Katherine Lee
- Joseph Hui
- Marisa Ming
- Lilian Siak
- Margaret Wong
- Tung Weng
- Eric Wu
- Grace Yu
- Helen Qian Zhou

**Nomination Chair**

George Lim-Poy

Legal Counsel  
 John Yun

ACA SPOTLIGHT is a semi-annual publication  
 Publisher Name and Mailing Address:  
 Association of Chinese Americans  
 P.O. Box 615, Warren, MI 48090-0615

Issue Date: January 2006  
 Issue Number: Volume 2006, No. 1

## ACA held its 33<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary and Award Celebration Event

The event was held at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn on October 29<sup>th</sup> 2005. Nearly 300 guests and dignitaries honored ACA with their presence and support. The evening was joyous and highly educational. We chose “Promoting Community Spirit through Bridge Building” as the theme this year to demonstrate that our needs to reach out to each other and bridge the racial, social, political and economical divides remain highly relevant, pressing and forever enduring.

The celebration Committee is to be commended for a job well done. They are Dr. Anthony and Mrs. Gracia Lee, Dr. John Siak, Dr. Joseph Hui, Drs. Tung and Marie Weng, Mr. Edward Sing and his fellow AMVETS Chinese American Post 85 members and our hard working ACA Executive Director Shenlin Chen.

Our Keynote speaker was Shirley R. Stancato, President and CEO of New Detroit, a premier race relation coalition. She exemplified the very spirit of the theme we chose this year and spoke most eloquently on the subject. The Outstanding Leader’s award was simultaneously given to 2 outstanding ACA members, Dr. John Siak and Dr. Joseph Hui for demonstrating their capacity for self sacrifice for the common good of ACA as they worked tirelessly in completing the renovation of the new Chinese Community Center.



New Detroit President Shirley Stancato Keynote Speaker

The Outstanding Organization award went to ACCESS for rallying this year a large group of culturally diverse protesters in a march against racial intolerance. The Most Outstanding Corporation Award was bestowed this year on a long time supporter of ACA, DTE Energy for its unwavering faith in ACA.

As the saying goes, “a picture is worth a thousand words”; here is a sampling of photos taken of our event.



Joseph Hui receiving leadership award



Noel Saleh president of ACCESS receiving outstanding organization award



John Siak receiving leadership award



Amvets and Family

## Service Center Update By Shenlin Chen

ACA Chinese Community Center, the long held dream of many Chinese Americans in the metropolitan Detroit area, has finally come true. The doors to the new Chinese Community Center in Oakland County were finally opened and services were promptly started, thus raising our commitment to serve the Chinese and Asian Americans to an even higher level.

As we reflect on the work that has been accomplished these past few months, we are proud and grateful to show the significant progress that has been made in every aspect of our services and operation. The success did not come easily; it took much time and talents for people who share the same vision and are willing to join hands with us in breaking through all the challenges and barriers. To those individuals who have helped us so much, we extend our sincere gratitude in the establishment of all the programs and services.

In response to the increasing demand in the community, we have expanded our services to different cities, which include Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties. Our services areas encompass those geographical areas with the largest concentration of Chinese population in South East Michigan.

With much work to be accomplished yet, we have faith that many people are holding on to our vision of one united heart and a common purpose. We will all continue to strive for the common goal and are holding great hope for a positive outcome in the very near future.

### Activity highlights

- ACA Senior Club



We are glad to announce the formation of the ACA Senior Club. Fifty-one seniors have come from different parts of the metropolitan Detroit area to attend the opening ceremony. This club, sponsored by ACA, will serve as a mechanism to provide services and programs that focus on the well being of the Chinese seniors. The activities will be designed, coordinated and even delivered by the club members. They will meet monthly at the Chinese Community Center for health seminars, exercises, cultural workshops, holiday celebrations and community services. The group members are also in the process of forming sub-groups according to different geographic areas for daily life support.

- Thanksgiving Celebration



Volunteers preparing Thanksgiving meals to the crowd

The 2006 Thanksgiving Celebration party was hosted at the Chinese Community Center on November 13. Over 200 people who regularly attend ACA programs at different sites participated in this event to share the joy of the thanksgiving season. 23 volunteers who helped out with different projects at different cities were recognized and received the plaques. The volunteers include ESL teachers, front desk helpers and also those who spent time on various building projects. ACA Board members including President Marie Weng, all contributed to the event by cooking turkeys or preparing other food items for the dinner. The night was filled with joyful atmosphere. 10 performances were presented after the Thanksgiving dinner. ACA Board member, Margaret Wong contributed one hundred dollars as matching donation.

### Sincere appreciation goes to all our funding sources:

**Detroit Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency, City of Detroit, Detroit Area Agency on Aging 1A, Area Agency on Aging 1B, Ameritech, Earl Beth Foundation, State of Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, Youth Sports and Recreation Commission, Ameritech and New Detroit, Inc.**

## Service Center Update

continue from page 4



Students of Ms. Hanrong Wang presenting Mulan Fan at the Thanksgiving party

- Monthly Health Check-Up

In partnership with University of Michigan School of Nursing and Meijer, we held the November Health Screening Day. Approximately 120 people had their monthly health blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol checks done. Mary Sandusky, Consultant Pharmacist from Michigan Department of Community Health gave an in-depth presentation on Medicare Part D – The new Drug Benefit. Presentation was delivered in English and Mandarin. There was a question and answer session after the talk. We are excited that starting in the New Year, we will have full support from the newly established Chinese Physician Organization to sponsor this monthly event with us. The Chinese physicians who are specialists in different areas, can provide consultation and screening services at our monthly event.

- Chinese Art on Display



We held at the CCC a beautiful Chinese art exhibit created by elementary school students from the Lamphere Schools from December 15 to December 20. As part of our mission to pro-

mote collaboration among organizations in the community, we see this art exhibit as a great opportunity to reach out and network with the local schools through art event partnership. Craig Hinshaw, Lamphere art teacher shared his vision of educating students in learning other cultures by studying their artwork. His effort truly created the potential for greater acceptance of diversity among the young generation. The art work on display included an assortment of paper pandas, fans and lanterns, Chinese dragons, painted scrolls, clay Tang horses and the famous clay soldier.

- 2006 Christmas Luncheon

110 participants gathered to celebrate Christmas at the Mongolian Buffet. This event has become a holiday tradition for many of our clients. Every year, we receive phone calls inquiring about this event. Thanks to Paramount Bank and the Motor City Travel Company for sponsoring a gift basket and a NBA ticket as the two grand raffle prizes for this event. Margaret Wong, ACA Board member contributed one hundred dollars in matching fund. Total fund raised through the Christmas raffle was two hundred ninety four dollars.

- Providing Space for Various Activities

Many groups came from different parts of the community to use the Chinese Community Center for various functions and activities in the past three months. Currently, we are providing space for many programs on a regular basis such as the children's Chinese Schools, Ballroom Dance Lesson, Senior Club, Martial Art Class, Adult Chinese Lessons, Youth Art Class and ESL Classes of various levels. We also have provided space to many other organizations in the community for their activities. We love to see people value our vision and come to our Center to partake in many activities such as seminars, dance parties, holiday celebrations, meetings, charity activities, Ping-pong competition. The Center suits the needs of different functions for many groups and has been receiving many positive feedbacks from many groups.

### Programs in preparation

#### Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Education Workshop

With the sponsorship of Area Agency on Aging, we will be offering a Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Education Workshop later this year. As the number of seniors providing childcare for the family during daytime is increasing, we believe that this program will suit the needs of many families. The workshop will be focusing on assisting grandparents to conquer cultural and language barriers to increase effectiveness in taking care of their grandchildren.

## Service Center Update *continue from page 5*

### Financial Literacy Program

Thanks to Comerica Bank for a grant support, we will be offering a financial literacy program to low-income individuals and families. From opening a bank account, writing a check, reading monthly bank statement to establish personal credit and developing financial management plan, this program will improve financial knowledge of many people who can not fully access banking or financial services due to a lack of culturally competent assistance in current banking services.



Ping pong competition held at the Chinese Community Center



Boy Scouts volunteered painting for the kitchen renovation project at CCC



Ms. Ningling Fang talked about European culture at the ACA Canton

### Remembering Chung Long (Cindy) Tsao – A long time ACA member

Cindy Tsao passed away on October 19, 2005 from complication following surgery in Stuttgart, Germany while on a visit to daughter Eve and her family. Her husband of 40 years Naikuan was with her during this last trip. A Funeral service attended by the immediate family was held in Stuttgart, Germany. On December 11th 2005 a second memorial service was held upon the request of the family at the Chinese Community Center. A large group of Cindy's friends came to mourn her and to remember her. Naikuan requested that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to ACA/CCC in memory of Cindy.

Cindy was born on March 27<sup>th</sup> 1935 in Sarikei, Sarawak, Malaysia to a Christian family. She had 4 brothers and 4 sisters. Cindy is survived by her husband Naikuan and her daughter Eve and her family, of Stuttgart, Germany.

Cindy has been fondly remembered by all her old ACA friends as the old steadfast friend who as her husband would describe her "enjoyed calling them and asking them about their health, career or simply to chit-chat", "she is the one who always initiate the AT&T slogan to reach out and touch someone.."

Cindy was remembered by many ACA members as the passionate American Citizen for Justice (ACJ) organizer who in 1982 opened her home and used her basement as a headquarter of ACJ. Cindy along with many others helped form ACJ to pursue justice for Vincent Chin, the young draftsman who on the eve of his wedding was attacked and killed by an employed autoworker who mistook him for as a Japanese and blamed him for all the unemployment of the autoworkers.

All of us at ACA shall remember and will miss our dear friend Cindy.





Association of Chinese Americans, Inc.  
Detroit Chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans



## 2006 Chinese New Year Banquet



金犬賀歲



新春晚宴

celebrating the Year of the Dog



**Date: 1/28/2006 (Sat.), 6:00PM**  
**Place: Golden Harvest Restaurant**  
**6880 12 Mile Road, Warren MI 48092**  
**(Between Van Dyke and Mound)**

**10 Course Gourmet Dinner**  
**Live Auction, Raffle, Entertainment**  
**(Prize includes 2 Northwest RT US continental tickets)**

**Ticket price: Patron \$75**  
**ACA Member: \$35, Non-member: \$40**  
**Tickets sales: Marie Weng (248) 475-0976**  
**ACA Service Center (313) 831-1790**  
**ACA Chinese Community Center (248) 585-9343**



## SALUTE TO CHINESE AMERICAN VETERANS



A number of our local veterans served in these special units and formed the Detroit 14<sup>th</sup> Air Force Flying Tigers Association. Other area veterans formed the Michigan Chinese American Post 85 of the AMVETS, a national organization.

World War II was the turning point for the Chinese in America. The contributions of Chinese Americans to the war effort resulted in lifting the ban on citizenship for Chinese immigrants. All non-citizen Chinese in the Armed Forces were granted immediate citizenship. Many veterans took advantage of the GI Bill and completed their education to advance their professional careers and to make greater contributions to society.

An Honor Roll of area residents who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States has been compiled by Mr. George Lim Poy, Post Historian. He also prepared large display boards on which a photograph and the service history of each veteran was mounted. These were placed at the back of the banquet hall for review by the event attendees.

The Annual Celebration and Awards Event held at the Hyatt Regency Dearborn on October 29, 2005, gave special recognition to the Chinese Americans who had served in the Armed Forces of the U.S.A. on the occasion of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II.

Chinese American veterans, the widows of veterans, wives and family members were invited and over forty persons were present to be honored.

An honor guard was formed by the Chinese American AMVETS Michigan Post 85 to perform the flag posting ceremony at the beginning of the event, (Figure 1). Mr. George Lim Poy, past Post 85 Commander, was in charge of the detail. After posting the colors, the AMVETS led in the recitation of the "Pledge of Allegiance" followed by the singing of "God Bless American" by Dr. Victoria Navarra.

Mr. Andrew Wong, past Post 85 Commander, gave a short presentation describing the participation of Chinese Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces in World War II. When Chinese Americans numbered about 100,000, over 12,000 Chinese served in the Armed Forces. This 12 percent of the total Chinese population far exceeded the 8 percent of the total U.S. population who served.

To utilize the language skills of the Chinese Americans, the Armed Forces formed a number of all Chinese technical service units (Figure 2 and 3). These units, totaling about 2,000 men, operated in the China-Burma-India (CBI) Theatre of Operations. The remaining 10,000 Chinese Americans served in all branches of the Armed Forces all around the world.

Upon completion of Mr. Wong's address, on behalf of Chinese American AMVETS Post 85, Albert Sing presented an American Flag Set to the ACA to be displayed at the new ACA Chinese Community Center (Figure 5).

Later in the program, excerpts from the documentary film, "We Served with Pride" were shown depicting the contributions of Chinese Americans in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War II.



## ACA THANKS THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY

### HONOR ROLL CALL

#### Chinese American Veterans of Michigan Who Proudly Served in WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and Desert Storm I and II

|                     |                     |                  |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Sang Chan           | James Lee*          | Chin Ming Lun    | Harry Eing Wee*     |
| Shek Chen*          | Norman Lee          | Eugene Moy*      | Lim D. Wee          |
| Eugene Chin         | Thomas J.(Jack)Lee* | Harry Moy*       | Frank Weinan        |
| Marvin Chin         | Thomas Lee          | James Moy        | Andrew Wong         |
| Wing Chin           | Stuart Lee          | Howard Moy       | Edgar Wong          |
| Winston Chinn       | Wayne Lee           | Raymond Moye     | George Herbert Wong |
| Gregory Christopher | William Lee         | Jo Ken Ong*      | William G. Wong*    |
| Bowman K. Chung     | Harold B. Leon*     | Donald F. Pon    | Frank Woo           |
| Homer Fatt*         | Frank B. Leong      | Alfred Frank Poy | Andrew T. Yang*     |
| Howard Fatt*        | Frank C. G. Leong   | Chas.Wm. Poy     | Fulton Yee          |
| Joe Fatt            | Hamilton Leong      | George Lim Poy   | George "Gizmo" Yee  |
| Robert Fatt*        | Hayne Leung         | Happy Shuck      | Henry Yee           |
| Walter Fatt*        | Henry Leung         | Albert Y. Sing   | Henry F. Yee        |
| Thomas K.J. Fong    | Bien Lim            | Calvin Y. Sing*  | Jack Yee            |
| David Hom           | Byron Lim*          | Edward Y. Sing   | Tom H. Yee          |
| Oscar Hong          | Donald F. Lim*      | Henry Soo Hoo    | Wah Yee             |
| Clarence Hui*       | Ray Y. Lim*         | Leo Soo Hoo*     | William F. Yee      |
| George King*        | Richard Y. Lim*     | Sik Woo Ting*    | Yin Ack Yee         |
| Harry King          | Ronald Q. Linn      | Howard Tom       | Yoke Mon Yee        |
| Ray Joh             | William C. Louie*   | Tommy Tom        | Arthur Yim          |
| Florence Jhung Lee  | Joe Y. Low*         | Bill Troy        | James E. Yip        |
| Frank Lee           | Roy Low*            | Edward Eing Wee* | Jue L. Yung         |

#### Deceased\*



*Continue on page 12*

# The 23<sup>rd</sup> High School Student Achievement Awards Dinner is a Success

by Roland Hwang

The ACA High School Student Achievement Awards Dinner was held jointly on Sunday, December 4, 2005 at the Golden Harvest Restaurant in Warren. The 23rd Annual High School Achievement Dinner was a resounding success with a record 29 Seniors of the Class of 2006 being honored. Again this year the Detroit Chinese Engineers Association has participated in the selection and event. About 70 people attended. Most of the students were either in attendance or represented by their families.



High School Awards Finalists

John Siak with Grace Huang, the P.L. Siak Awardee



Continue from page 10

The \$1000 ACA Scholarship goes to the high school senior determined to be best all around (in grades, test scores, interview, essay, and extra-curricular involvement), while the Mabel Peng Memorial Scholarship of \$500 goes to the high school senior with the best academics. The Mr & Mrs. P.L. Siak Scholarship of \$750, and the John and Theresa Shen Art Scholarship in the amount of \$500, went to other deserving awardees.

Kelly Gu received the ACA Scholarship. Helen Jiang received the Mabel Peng Memorial Scholarship. Richard Tao and Wendy Xiao received ACA scholarships as well. Grace Huang received the P.L. Siak Scholarship. The honorees and their schools are as follows:

|                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Melissa Chen        | Athens              |
| Jennifer Ding       | Rochester           |
| Kelly Gu            | Troy                |
| Wing Lok Ho         | Troy                |
| Lisa Htang          | Troy                |
| Catherine Huang     | Canton              |
| Grace Huang         | Northville          |
| Maggie Hwang        | Athens              |
| Helen Jiang         | Troy                |
| Amy Liang           | Grosse Pointe South |
| Zhi P. Liu          | Ferndale            |
| Chang Lu            | Troy                |
| Yi Yang (Amy) Lu    | Salem               |
| Emily Shu           | Troy                |
| Albert Sun          | Andover             |
| Katherine Yiwen Tan | Troy                |
| Richard Tao         | Troy                |
| Leslie Tse          | Detroit Country Day |
| Cathy Twu           | Troy                |
| <b>Teresa Wang</b>  | <b>Salem</b>        |
| Jeffrey Wong        | Andover             |
| Wendy Xiao          | Andover             |
| Alexander Xie       | Troy                |
| Alex Xu             | Andover             |
| Connie Xu           | Ann Arbor Huron     |
| Eugenia Yee         | Troy                |
| Katherine Zhang     | Rochester Adams     |
| Jenny Zhao          | Northville          |

Xue Fei(Sophia) Zhuo Lahser

Amy K. Stillman, Director of Asian Pacific Islander American Studies at the University of Michigan, gave important advice to the students about being activists when they reach their respective campuses, and she reported on the race relations climate on the U-M campus.

Many thanks to the committee members. The committee included: Roland Hwang, Steve Peng, Gracia Lee, Marie Weng, Simon Tung, and Iris Shen Van Buren.

Congratulations and best wishes to all of the students!



Roland Hwang with the 2 ACA Co-Awardees, Richard Tao and Wendy Xiao

## November 2006: Michigan Asian Pacific American Voters Will Decide: What's Not Civil and What's Not Right?

Stephanie Chang, *Coalition Organizer*, Michigan United, (734) 751-9814, stephanielilychang@gmail.com  
www.oneunitedmichigan.org

On December 20<sup>th</sup>, the Michigan Court of Appeals ordered Wardell Connerly's proposed anti-affirmative action amendment on the November 2006 ballot. This proposed amendment, which originated and is headquartered in California, is deceptively named the "Michigan Civil Rights Initiative" (MCRI) and calls for the end of "discrimination and preferential treatment" on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin.

**DON'T BE FOOLED.** The so-called "Michigan Civil Rights Initiative" would immediately eliminate all affirmative action programs—an important tool in combating discrimination and addressing disparities we face today. Without affirmative action, and if the MCRI were to pass, Michigan would roll back its progress we've made in providing opportunities for people of color and women.

Michigan citizens from all walks of life are coming together to educate about affirmative action and the likely consequences of the so-called "Michigan Civil Rights Initiative!!"

We must understand how the APA community is affected by affirmative action and educate our families, co-workers, and community members as well. Affirmative action is not a Black/White issue; too often are APAs used as a model minority myth "wedge." Only with our increased participation will we become the integral part of the picture that we need to be.

Below is an excerpt from a statement from the

APA Caucus of Michigan United on 12/12/05. **The caucus is hosting an education/speakers training on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 1:00-4:00pm @ the Korean American Community Center of Michigan in Southfield. Contact Stephanie Chang.**

**The Asian Pacific American Caucus opposes discrimination, and supports affirmative action programs to advance equal opportunity and access for women and people of color in public education, contracting and employment.** Affirmative action programs, including recruitment, outreach, and training initiatives offered to qualified women and minorities, including Asian Pacific Americans, remedy past discrimination, fight present-day disparities, and promotes diversity in our society. For Asian Pacific Americans, these programs are both positive and necessary.

### APAs FACE DISPARITIES

It is important to recognize that although we as Asian Pacific Americans have come a long way in battling discrimination and addressing disparities, we still have far to go.

26% of Laotian Americans, 24.3% of Hmong Americans, and 28% of Cambodian Americans have had some college education, compared to 51.8% of the total United States population.

Asian Pacific American college faculty have one of the lowest tenure rates of all racial and ethnic groups. The highest ratio of non-tenure track appointments—more than 30%-- belongs to Asian Pacific Americans.

In the private sector, Asian Pacific Americans make up 7.3% of the professional workforce, but only 2.8% of the administrative or management personnel. White Americans make up 82.6% of all professional positions but hold 87% of management positions.

Knowing that these disparities exist, the subsequent question is whether or not affirmative action has bene-

Continue from page 12

fited Asian Pacific Americans. The answer is "yes."

### **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION HAS BENEFITED APAs**

Affirmative action has been successful in increasing the representation of Asian Pacific Americans in higher education. Without affirmative action, Asian Pacific Americans lose out on those opportunities.

In ten years, the percentage of Asian Pacific Americans who received bachelor degrees increased from 3.8% in 1990-1991 to 6.3% in 2000-01.

Before Proposition 209 banned affirmative action in California, Asian Pacific Americans made up 18.3% of the University of California law schools' class (1994-1996). Afterward, Asian Pacific Americans dropped to 17.4% of the class. White enrollment jumped from 59.8% to 71.7% in state law schools.

Affirmative action in public employment and contracting has helped level the playing field for Asian Pacific Americans. Since California adopted its civil service affirmative action programs in 1977, Asian Pacific Americans achieved labor force parity in 11 of 19 state job categories.

Diversity in the classroom and workplace ensures a more inclusive environment, better discussions, and better decisions, leading to students and workers who are "more motivated and better able to participate in a heterogeneous and complex society." Everyone, including Asian Pacific Americans, benefit from the school and workplace diversity that affirmative action helps to ensure.

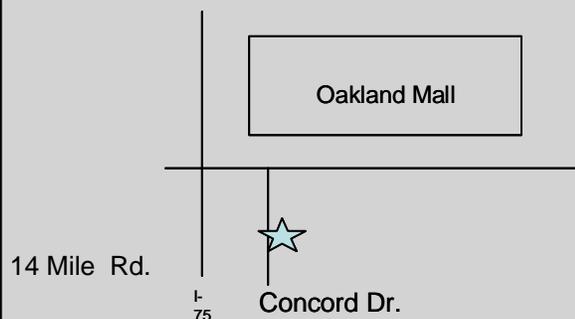
*See [www.acadetroit.org](http://www.acadetroit.org) for full statement, signed by more than sixty individuals and organizations.*

## **You are invited** ACA-Chinese Community Center

**Chinese New Year Open  
House and Dedication**  
January 29, 2006, 1- 4 PM

32585 Concord Dr.  
Madison Heights, MI 48071

Please come and  
see the brand new **ACA-CCC**  
**Chinese New Year Celebration**  
**Dedication of Plaques Honoring Do-**  
**ners**  
**Refreshments and Tour**



We serve the community and our neighbors

## Remembering Helen Liu – Long time ACA member

Helen Tso-Zue Liu, age 98, died peacefully, surrounded by all her family at her home in West Bloomfield, Michigan on August 11, 2005.

At the visitation and “celebration of her life” memorial service people were present from the many groups whose lives she touched: a man who was a student in a second grade class she taught in 1970, her husband’s FF fraternity brothers and sisters, University of Michigan friends, long time neighbors, members of the Delta Kappa Gamma professional educators honorary society, Vic Tanny (now called Bally’s) health club, ACA/OCA, the Chinese Senior Citizens’ group “Evergreen”, Pacific Rim group, and many other friends and relatives.

While an undergraduate student at Jiao Tong University, Helen volunteered with the Red Cross during the war between Japan and China. She ministered to wounded soldiers on the front, demonstrating courage and determination - characteristics that would define her throughout her life. Helen graduated in 1933 with a Bachelors in Railroad Administration. Her degree led to her first job with the Shanghai-Nanking Railroad Accounting Office, where she enjoyed traveling the country on weekends and holidays with her friends and co-workers. After three years, the Ministry of Railroads in China awarded her a half scholarship to attend the University of Michigan where she earned her Master of Arts in Economics in 1937.

Helen met Ang Tsung (A.T.) Liu at Jiao Tong University and was engaged to him before he left for the U of M in 1935 to do graduate studies (Doctorate in Science in Civil Engineering). Helen and A.T. were married Christmas Eve, 1936, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. While in Ann Arbor until 1946, Helen and A.T.’s house was a “home away from home” for many Chinese students. Throughout their lives, Helen and A.T. wanted to help the relationship between China and America and friendship between Chinese and American people.

In the mid-1940’s, Helen was an instructor for IBM in Shanghai. In the mid-1950’s, she was an administrative assistant for the U of M Alumni Office of Detroit. In the 1960’s, after earning an ele-

mentary school teaching certificate from Wayne State University in 1961, she became the first Chinese American teacher at Leggett School in Waterford. She retired in 1976 and traveled extensively with her husband until he passed away in 1994. As a widow she continued to travel with friends and family throughout Europe, Asia, the Caribbean and the United States.

Helen and A.T. were among the early members of the ACA when it was started. They worked on the Vincent Chin case as well as other efforts to promote the goals of the ACA. On February 17, 1999, at the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, Helen was presented an award “in grateful recognition of selfless contributions and unending dedication toward serving the Chinese American community of Metropolitan Detroit.” At the time she was on the ACA Board again and there was an article about her in a Chinese language newspaper.

Other organizations in which she was active as an officer or board member were: the American Association of University Women, National Education Association/ Michigan Education Association, Waterford Education Association, National Retired Teachers Association, and the U of M Alumni Association - which awarded her the 1987 Detroit Chapter service award.

Many people also remember Helen as an excellent cook! She taught “American” cooking in Shanghai and Chinese cooking in the U.S. She also was known for her avid interest and participation in the stock market. She had an outgoing personality and as one person said of her, “she always was enlarging her circle of friends”.



## **Biographies of Board members elected at the December 4<sup>th</sup> '05 meeting**

### **Gracia Lee:**

Gracia resides in Troy, MI. She graduated from National Chengchi University with a major in Accounting and Statistics and a MBA degree. She worked as a Professional Finance Consultant. She has an extensive finance, accounting and management experience with Chase Manhattan Bank International and Volkswagen of America. She is now retired and has her own finance consultancy.

### **Katherine M. Lee:**

Katherine resides in Troy, MI. She graduated from Cass tech and Wayne State University. She owns her own business and is the President of Omni International Consultant, Inc. She is fluent in English and Cantonese. She has high proficiency in computer skills. She has accounting and organizational experience and skills. She has successfully handled many different types of businesses and is very familiar with the nutritional supplement business. She is involved with many community boards such as St John Oakland Hospital, Council of Asian Pacific Americans (she is the current president), Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce, Troy Brownfield Authority and many others.

### **Joan Wang:**

Joan resides in Northville, MI. She graduated from the HangZhou High School in China. She went on to earn a BS in Computer Engineering and a Masters degree in Electrical/Computer Engineering at the University of Michigan. She is employed with SBC, now known as AT&T as Sr. Developer. She is fluent in both Chinese and English. Her computer skills are extensive: Unix, Windows, OS X, Linux, C, C++ html, perl, Java etc.

### **Shirley Yee:**

Shirley resides in Troy, MI; She graduated from Finney H.S. and obtained a BA in Mass communication

from Wayne State University. She is employed by the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce. (APACC) She is fluent in English and Cantonese. She has proficiency with Macintosh and Pc, Microsoft Word & Excel. Her accounting/financial experiences are in Accts. Receivable, Accts. Payable, Bookkeeping. She has Office and operational and management experiences. She has been a long time ACA member.

### **Jennifer G. Zaborny:**

Jennifer resides in Shelby Township. She went to Bishop Foley H.S. Had a BBA from Walsh College School of Business Administration and Accountancy. Also received her MBA from the same school. She is an assistant V-P, small Business product manager at Comerica bank. Her major language is English. She possesses extensive Computer skills, has been in finance for well over 10 years. Has organizational/management skills and has been involved in research as well. She has been affiliated for the last 5 years with Greater Detroit Chapter of the national Association of women Business owners (NAWBO). She has been a member of CAPA for the last 3 years and has taught catechism at her church for the last year.

### **Helen Qiang Zhou:**

Helen resides in Farmington Hills. She went to Wuhan H.S. China, graduated from Tinajin University, China and earned 2 masters in the U.S., Ms from the State University of New York and MBA from the University of Wyoming. Her employer is DaimlerChrysler Financial Services. Her position there is Senior Financial Risk Analyst, CFA. She is fluent in both English and Mandarin Chinese. She has high proficiency in Computer skills, accounting skills, organizational skills and research skills. She is affiliated with the Detroit Society of Security Analyst and is also the Vice-President of the Asian Middle Eastern Employee Resource group at the DaimlerChrysler Financial Services.



NON PROFIT ORG.  
 U. S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 SOUTHFIELD, MI  
 Permit 222

**Association of Chinese Americans, Inc.**

**EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF CHINESE AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES**

DETROIT CHAPTER OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF CHINESE AMERICANS  
 323585 Concord Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071

=====

*Tear Here and Mail*

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
 January 1 through December 31

To join or renew your ACA membership, please complete this application form and return it with check payable to  
 Association of Chinese Americans

Attn: Membership  
 Margaret Wong  
 32585 Concord Drive  
 Madison Height, MI 48071

**Please check one category**

|                       |             |              |            |               |            |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Senior Citizen        | \$15 ____   | Single       | \$20 ____  | Family        | \$30 ____  |
| Senior Citizen Couple | \$25 ____   | Century Club | \$100 ____ | American Club | \$250 ____ |
| Life Membership       | \$1000 ____ | Corporate    | \$100 ____ |               |            |

**DONATION \$ \_\_\_\_** Please circle your choice of program. Thank you for your continued support!

High School Scholarship                      ACA Service Programs                      General Fund

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Chinese Name \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Home # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

New Address? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_      New Membership? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_      Membership Renewal? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

