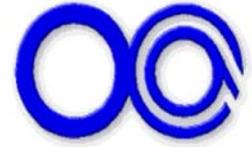


ACA SPOTLIGHT



展望 密州美華協會通訊



Founded in 1972

Vol. 2008 Issue 2 August 2008

www.ACADETROI.org

Service Centers News

By Shenlin Chen

It is with great pleasure that I update you on the progress of the programs at our centers as we move on to the last quarter of the year.

As we approach the 3rd anniversary of the opening of the **Chinese Community Center (CCC)** in Madison Heights, the Center has grown significantly in many different areas. We are seeing a variety of programs targeting different age groups being offered at the Center. There is also an increase in the number of local groups, with and without a Chinese background, coming to utilize the facility. For future development, we have made commitments in the areas of programs, infrastructure and facilities. We are asking all of our members and friends in the community to join us in continuously building up the Center.

We are grateful for the opportunity given to us by the **Detroit Wayne County Community Mental Health Agency** to enhance the health status of Chinese Americans living in Wayne County. With their support, we will be further expanding our services to **Canton/Plymouth** area communities. The program provides services to the target population through outreach family support, and collaboration with multiple human services systems with the goal of enhancing participants' mental and physical well-being to prevent the need for in-patient psychiatric hospitalization or intensive crisis residential placement.

Entering its eighth year, the **Youth Summer Camp** recruited 146 campers and 30 counselors this year. We extend our thanks to **Compuware** for their confidence in our program and are especially grateful for their funding support. Through the years, this program has impacted many young lives in providing them an educational and cultural awareness program in the summer time. The program itself is not only a learning environment for the campers, but also for those young adult counselors who choose to exercise their leadership and other professional skills at the camp. We are expecting a great outcome this year guided by our young and capable leaders, **Tonda Shimbo** and **Chris Quiambao**, who have headed and grown with the camp for the past six and seven years.



Summer Camp trip to the Detroit Zoo

The **Senior Daily Hot Lunch** program was launched at our Chinese Community Center in March. Sponsored by **Area Agency on Aging 1B**, the Daily Hot Lunch program provides a combination of Western and authentic ethnic Chinese meals for the aging population in the area. Sponsored by the **Detroit Area Agency on Aging 1A**, our **Drop-In Center** in Downtown Detroit is also a congregate meal site that serves Chinese meals. Our goal for this program, in addition to the provision of nutrition balanced meals everyday, is to establish a friendly environment in which seniors can enjoy companionship and remain socially active.

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President's Message

Dear ACA Members and Friends,

I am happy to report that ACA continues to lead the community in implementing programs with your continuing support that make a difference that you can see in people's individual lives. Our past programs have been sustained and new programs have been initiated in our community. The **Area Agency on Aging** has renewed support to ACA to assist seniors in living a life of respect and dignity with preventive health care, education, social services, and recreational activity programs. Our two organizations established a new Senior Hot Lunch Program that serves Western and authentic Chinese dishes to seniors at the ACA Chinese Community Center in Madison Heights. **Margene Ann Scott**, Mayor Pro Tem of Madison Heights, who attended the opening event, said it was heartwarming to see '...the joy of the seniors...' at this event. At the same time, the ACA Board is focused on developing an exciting new approach that addresses the needs of the community at every age level. This 'Comprehensive Age Continuum of Services and Training Program' has several elements that bring together and integrate a larger age range of people. I will talk more about this in the months ahead and you can also read about some of the many programs we have implemented this past year in our Executive Director's Service Centers News report in this newsletter and on our website (www.acadetroit.org).



Now is the time for me to invite you to the **ACA 36th Annual Celebration & Fund Raising Event**. The theme of the event is *Global Voices for the Future* and will be held on the evening of **Saturday, October 4, 2008**, at the **Hyatt Regency** in Dearborn, Michigan. It is very appropriate, timely, and our privilege to have as our Keynote Speaker **Mr. Ray G. Young**, who is the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of **General Motors**. His insights will be very enlightening to all of us in this climate of global change. Also, we will showcase some of our achievements in 2008, notably the many programs we have successfully implemented this past year at our Service Centers, our China Earthquake Fund, and our Future Workforce Program. I would like to thank the membership and their friends for your support and generous contributions to the ACA China Earthquake Fund.

Your ACA Board and Staff work very hard to maintain and enhance our long history and legacy mission of positive influence in our community. We achieve this by bringing awareness of the significant impact of diversity in all aspects on the individuals in our community and on our community as a whole. Enjoy the rest of the summer and I'll see you at one of our many events.

With my deep appreciation for your support,
Ron Wong, 2008 ACA President



Dianne Warren, Manager at the Red Cross (far left), and Jim Laverty, CEO of the Red Cross (center), accept the donation check presented by ACA representatives.

China Earthquake Fund

By Shenlin Chen

ACA (OCA-Detroit) organized a relief fund to help victims suffering from the massive earthquake in China. The campaign lasted one month from May 17th to June 17th.

Most of the donations came from members, clients and people in the community. Donations totaling \$10,305.00 were collected and forwarded to the **Red Cross** in Southern Michigan on June 23rd. Furthermore, all of the donation will be forwarded to the **National Red Cross**, which will provide immediate relief and long-term support to rebuild lives in the affected communities.

Happy 3rd Anniversary
on August 8, 2008
to the
Chinese Community Center

Remember to attend the
36th Anniversary Annual Celebration at
the Hyatt Regency in Dearborn
on Saturday, October 4, 2008

HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES IN 25TH YEAR

By Roland Hwang

The High School Achievement Award Scholarship Program continues in its 25th year. Started by the ACA in 1984, this year the program will also have as organizational participants the **Detroit Chinese Engineers Association**, and the **Council of Asian Pacific Americans**.

The three organizations will recognize the area's many fine Asian Pacific American high school scholars in the Class of 2009. The High School Awards Program Committee is pleased to have received 29 nominations. Based upon scholastic and extra-curricular achievement, the nominees will be answering essay questions, and attending an interview. The Committee will be holding interviews on October 5th. The nominees this year are exceptional, as in years past.

The ASSOCIATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS SCHOLARSHIP is for best all around scholarship and leadership. The MABEL PENG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP is for best academic record and test scores.

The MR. & MRS. P.L. SIAK SCHOLARSHIP covers physical handicap and/or overcoming hardship.

The MARGARET WONG SCHOLARSHIPS recognize creativity and well-rounded development.

The DETROIT CHINESE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION offers two Engineering scholarships.

The COUNCIL OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS offers two \$1,000 scholarships to the Asian Pacific American high school Class of 2009 students going into Liberal Arts, Business, Journalism, Asian Pacific or APA Studies.

The awards will be determined on the basis of leadership, extra-curricular activities, academics, test scores, essays, and the interview. There will be scholarships in the amount of \$500 to \$1,000 each offered by the Association of Chinese Americans, the Detroit Chinese Engineers Association, and Council of Asian Pacific Americans. All committee decisions are final.

The High School Achievement Awards Banquet is to be held on **Sunday, December 7, 2008, at 6:00 p.m at Golden Harvest Restaurant**, 6880 E. Twelve Mile Road, just west of Van Dyke in Warren, Michigan. Further details will be announced. The awardees will each be honored at the banquet. Tickets can be reserved by calling Roland Hwang of the committee at 248-347-1663.

We hope to see you as we honor our best students of the Class of 2009 on December 7th.

Service Centers News

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There were 110 people in attendance at a **Newcomers' Club** Welcome Party held in May at the CCC. The Newcomers' Club program serves as a channel to connect newcomers to the Detroit area with needed local resources and services. Information is available on such topics as local real estate, schools, hospitals, social service agencies, mental health counseling as well as daily necessities such as grocery stores and restaurants.

Chase Bank is sponsoring an art contest and exhibit in the theme of "Celebrating the Expressions of Asian Art" to be held in November to celebrate the diversity within Asian art and culture. As part of the collaborative efforts with ACA, the **Detroit Institute of Arts** will be facilitating workshops and providing their studios for the contests.

For more information on any of these programs or other services provided, please call the CCC at (586) 585-9343 during office hours, Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. or by email at acacenterdir@ameritech.net.



Marie Weng (left) and Shenlin Chen (right) accept a grant check from Christine Kageff (middle) of Chase Bank for the art contest and exhibit event.

ACA/APIA Michigan Vote Program

By Ron Wong

On January 26-27, three members of the ACA Board (**Ron Wong**, **Roland Hwang**, and **Margaret Wong**) participated in the *APIA Vote Michigan Norman Y. Mineta Leadership Institute Training Symposium*. The Association of Chinese Americans (ACA) is the Detroit Chapter of the **Organization of Chinese Americans** (OCA) and **APIA Vote-Michigan** is one of seven organizations nationwide affiliated with **APIA**, a Washington D.C.-based non-partisan organization. It holds Asian-American voter registration drives and offers multilingual voter guides and organization training. These efforts result in a stronger Asian Voice.

This was the kick-off to the efforts of the Institute scheduled to launch this training symposium to the rest of the nation. Michigan was a surprise to the Institute to be the first to support their efforts for a national Pan-Asian movement to register and turn out voters. Michigan is a small but dependable voting bloc, according to a 2004 study of Michigan voters by APIA Vote. The study showed that about 90% of the state's registered Asian-American voters cast ballots in 2000 and 2004. In 2006, Asian Americans comprised about 2% of the state's 10 million residents, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Yet fewer than 55% of the state's Asian Americans 18 and older were registered to vote in 2004, according to **Michigan Voice**, a nonprofit project on voter participation. The weekend Symposium identified an opportunity to raise the potential of the Asian Voice. Asians are a fast growing but often overlooked voting bloc whose top concerns include the economy and access to affordable health care.

At the Symposium, ACA President Ron Wong and APIA Vote –Michigan Chair **Stephanie Chang** initiated the following collaborative activities to support this important initiative: ACA, with support from APIA, will identify potential ACA voter registration by conducting ACA membership list match; conduct voter registration awareness and registration at the ACA Lunar New Year Dinner and ACA Red Lantern Festival; provide materials, educational and registration support at the ACA Chinese Community Center; integrate with ACA citizenship activities; and provide facilities at the CCC for future APIA Vote meetings.

These efforts will be reported in the *OCA Vote in '08 Project* to the OCA Chapters around the country to provide additional awareness in this important election year.

For more information, visit www.apivote.org.

In Memoriam

Dr. Peter Wong, M.D.
(1926-2008)

Dr. Peter Wong joined the ACA during its early formative years and was an active volunteer for many years. He was a participating physician at the ACA Chinatown Free Clinic which served Chinese Senior Citizens and others on Sundays at its downtown Detroit location. He served several terms on the ACA Board of Directors and was appointed Chair of the Chinatown Drop-In Center Committee for several years before retiring to Hawaii in 2003.

Dr. Wong received his medical training in Hong Kong and practiced there for numerous years before coming to Detroit in 1967. He was a respected physician and educator at William Beaumont Hospital for more than 20 years.

We recently received word of his passing and wish to recognize and honor his dedicated service to the ACA and the Chinese Community.

Recognition of New Members

Xian H. Huang	Edward & Jiang Xian Mahl	Xzaohu Wang
Kwang Koh	Lisa & Douglas Meiners	Justin Warns
Anna Ha & Te Lee	Yuet S. Ng	Barbara Wojtas
Gilbert S. Lee	Yini Chen & Rod Reamer	John & Yukling Wong
Yuchuan Liu	Yongheng Shao	Margaret Woo



(L to R) Ron Wong, Ismael Ahmed, co-founder of ACCESS, Shenlin Chen, and Roland Hwang at the 37th Anniversary ACCESS Dinner



Association of Chinese Americans, Inc.
OCA-Detroit Chapter
proudly presents:

36th Anniversary Annual
Celebration & Fund Raising Event

GLOBAL VOICES FOR THE FUTURE

Saturday, October 4, 2008
Hyatt Regency Dearborn
600 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, MI 48126

Keynote Speaker:
Ray G. Young
General Motors Corporation
Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer

5:30 pm – Cocktail Reception
6:30 pm – Program Commencement
7:00 pm – Keynote Speaker and Awards Presentation
7:30 pm – Dinner
9:30 pm – Dancing

Black Tie Optional
Ticket Reservation Deadline: Monday, September 22, 2008
ACA Member: \$50/person
Community Ticket: \$60/person
Community Group: \$500/table
Corporate or Patron Ticket: \$100/person

For additional information, please contact :
Shenlin Chen, Executive Director
Phone: 248-585-9343 or 313-831-1790 or by email:

ACACENTERDIR@AMERITECH.NET

ACA Officers and Board of Directors

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President	Ronald T. Wong
Exec. V-P	Michael Lee
V-P Public Relation	Lisa Meiners
V-P Programs	Laura Hung
Treasurer	Glen Leong C. Dong
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Fred Ferris
Roland Hwang
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Jennifer G. Tengler
Joan Wang
Justin Warns
Margaret Wong

Nomination Chair

Marisa Ming

Legal Counsel

John Yun

Executive Director

Shenlin Chen

Upcoming Events

Saturday, October 4, 2008

36th Anniversary Annual Celebration and
Fund Raising Event
5:30 p.m. at Hyatt Regency
Dearborn, MI

November 2008

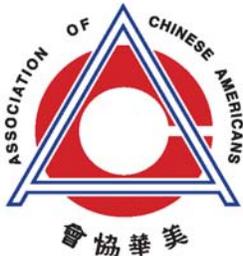
ACA Art Contest and Exhibit
Time and location to be determined
Sponsored by Chase Bank

Sunday, December 7, 2008

ACA General Membership Meeting
3:00 p.m. at Chinese Community Center
Madison Heights, MI

Sunday, December 7, 2008

ACA H. S. Achievement Awards Banquet
6:00 p.m. at Golden Harvest Restaurant
Warren, MI



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Association of Chinese Americans, Inc.

EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

DETROIT CHAPTER OF THE ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS
Chinese Community Center 32585 Concord Drive, Madison Heights, MI 48071

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