



OCA

EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF CHINESE AND ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICANS

San Mateo County Chapter P.O. Box 218 San Mateo, CA
94401 (650) 533-3065 www.ocasanmateo.org October 2009

Established in 1987, the OCA San Mateo Chapter is one of the four chapters in the Bay Area and one of the seven chapters in California. OCA (Organization of Chinese Americans) is a national nonprofit nonpartisan, civil rights advocacy and educational organization dedicated to embracing the hopes and aspirations and advancing the social, political and economic well being of Americans of Chinese and Asian descent.

Newsy Yan

Franklin M. Kang delivered the eulogy on behalf of the OCA San Mateo at Newsy Yan's December 29, 2009 service at the San Bruno Chinese Church.

I come to you in my capacity as a past President of OCA San Mateo. I had the privilege of serving with Newsy on the Board of Directors; Newsy served as a Board member when I served as President, and I served on the Board under her leadership thereafter.

When we heard of Newsy's death within OCA, we were heartbroken. In response to the news of her passing, I received messages from around the nation, written by people Newsy touched over the years. We all knew Newsy in different ways, and I would like to share how I came to know her. To put it succinctly, Newsy lived by "guy rules[:]" private but warm; quiet but opinionated; humble but fiercely driven to succeed; never a



Newsy Yan addressing the audience at the 2008 OCA Gala

complainer and willing to serve when needed.

As a lawyer and a professional woman, Newsy was careful and reserved. But if you were fortunate enough to break through this tough exterior, you would find a warm, fun-loving girl, who enjoyed the gift of life. The letter from the former Executive Director of OCA Daphne Kwok that I will share captures one of these moments, as does the memory shared by my spouse Clarissa. I will also share portions of letters written by Karen and Conrad Lee, Bill HooFatt, Linda Ng, and Camilla Ng among others this morning.

To Mrs. Yan, you should know what a strong daughter you had in Newsy. As a Chinese born woman in a foreign land, working in a field traditionally dominated by men, Newsy displayed a degree of strength, courage, and warmth that would have filled your heart with pride on any day. As a fellow lawyer and the son of immigrants, I know how much she overcame since arriving in America.

We watched Newsy as she worked hard to succeed as a lawyer, while serving her community through OCA. We witnessed your daughter become a strong accomplished woman, and shared your pride in her, as our sister and friend.

Newsy, thank you for allowing us to share your life; thank you for the gift of your friendship. We will pray for you as your journey continues with God. Goodbye sister.



Meagan Chan, Katharine Pong, Rebecca Hu and Emily Lin, Elizabeth Leong (Left to Right)



Frank & Ellen Ong



Paul Seto-Mayor of Millbrae, Jeff Gee-Redwood City Council, David Lim-San Mateo City Council

Second Food Harvest Bank Sort

By Emily Lin

On October 24, 2009, the OCA and YOCA members volunteered in a Food Sort for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

In order to promote the Food Bank's idea of "Providing food for people in need in our community", OCA showed their enthusiasm and hard work while sorting the food. It is essential to have their support to maintain efficient services. Their meticulous work was to make sure that the food was secure for the families who would receive it; they checked the date cautiously and make sure the food donated by benefactors was not deteriorated. They also ascertained the jars were not opened before. Canned food and baby food were separated. Some volunteers packed the food which had been sorted out in big bins so that it could be distributed through Food Bank's direct service program, their partnering agencies



Elizabeth Leong, Friend of OCA

or their supporters. It was amazing to see how OCA members showed their dedication to sort so many big boxes of food in such a short time.

Food that was sorted will be distributed to low-income and to the rising number of jobless individuals. Because of their

great effort, over 207,000 people a month would be able to receive food. Second Harvest Food Bank deeply showed their appreciation toward the OCA and YOCA members who provided their time and hard work to help the community.

The Food Bank looked forward to the continued partnership with OCA San Mateo next time.



Lee Farinas, Wade Loo, Natalie Chan, Chris Bush and Ted Thayer

2009 Holiday Party

By Chris Bush

OCA San Mateo celebrated its 2009 annual holiday party on

December 6th at Daiki Sushi in San Mateo. More than 50 people attended and enjoyed a delicious sit-down style Japanese lunch which included California roll, Gyoza, Edamame, a choice of Teriyaki chicken or beef, Miso soup, salad and rice. Coincidentally, this was the coldest day of the year, but our record attendance of friends, family and, of course, Santa Claus created a warm welcoming atmosphere.

Amongst the party goers were newly elected public officials Jeff Gee, Redwood City Council, David Lim, San Mateo City Council and Paul Seto, Millbrae Mayor who joined us in celebrating the winter holidays.

Many thanks to Martin Jung, OCA President, for the Christmas music; Lisa La, OCA Vice President, for conducting an OCA trivia contest for our entertainment; and Frank Ong for the champagne to toast the holidays!

Everyone had a grand old time eating, talking and enjoying the

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OCA Gala Fundraiser 2009

OCA San Mateo Chapter did it again!

— Chris Bush

Professional Event Photography by Frank Jang

company when we heard, HO, HO, HO, ...; around the corner came a well recognized figure with a full beard, a red velvety suit and a big bag slung over his shoulder.

2009 OCA Gala

The 2009 San Mateo OCA gala was a tremendous success. The annual gala, “Making a Difference Today for a Brighter Tomorrow”, was held on Saturday, September 26th at the South San Francisco Conference Center. It was packed with dignitaries, supporters and OCA members and friends. The festive atmosphere was enhanced by the sparkle of gold and crimson confetti and the melodic sounds of the big band era. Everyone had a wonderful time meeting old friends and making new acquaintances.

all delighted with the professionalism and gracious announcing of Frances Dinglasan and David Louie both from ABC7 News in San Francisco and the joyous sounds of the California Youth Chinese Symphony. This ensemble of young adults played traditional Chinese instruments dressed in costume to the delight of guests.

Honorees included Karen Leong Clancy, the Board of

Chapter President, Martin Jung, kicked off the evening by introducing our emcees. We were



Michelle Lee and Daren Nichol森

It was Santa Claus! He handed out gifts to the children and made animal balloons.

Happy holidays to all.



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California Chinese Youth Symphony



KGO channel 7 television personalities David Louie & Frances Dinglasan



(left to right) Honorees: Karen Leong Clancy, Belmont-Redwood Shores School District Board Trustees Member, John Chiang, California State Controller and Nancy Lim-Yee, San Francisco's Chinatown Children Development Center



Singer Juliet Fernandez

Trustees of the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District, honored for more than 30 years of efforts to improve educational opportunities, Nancy Lim-Yee, the Program Director at the Chinatown Child Development Center, honored for more than 30 years of work for the disabled, disadvantaged and under served, and John Chiang, California State Controller. John was honored for undertaking one of the most "taxing" jobs in government – Chief Fiscal Officer for the State of California.

Our enthusiastic crew of interns not only helped set things up, but through their tenacity the raffle

was a great success. Our silent auction was preceded by a very unsilent auction of two of our favorite interns. To help our fund raising efforts they volunteered to work for a half day for the highest bidder. Jeff Gee will have the honor of having these two interns help him with chores. Highlights of the silent auction were a lovely 7 cranes painting by Dr. Wei Lew, tickets from Southwest Airlines, 14K gold three stone necklace donated by Benjamin Yeung, family membership to the Pacific Athletic Club, a Wok Wiz tour for two from Shirley Fong-Torres and a night at the Ritz Carlton of San

Francisco (courtesy of Ritz Carlton).

The evening's festivities began with appetizers and a no host bar, as people chatted and moved on to dinner – salad – choice of entrées: New York Steak, Salmon or Stuffed Portobello Mushroom – dessert: fruit tart – madeleines – and ended with coffee. It almost seemed that the evening ended as soon as it began, perhaps it was the terrific announcers, their flawless pacing, the prestige of our honorees and their gracious words or the beautiful sounds of our Youth Chinese Symphony. This event contributes to the scholarships and such signature

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program as "Speak and Lead with Pride" that OCA San Mateo is known for. We are proud and grateful that the turnout exceeded last year's in spite of the slow economy.

Members of the gala committee, Martin Jung, Chris Bush, Natalie Chan, Jacob Chu, Lisa La, Melodie Lew, Wade Loo, Ivy Shen, Newsy Yan and Ben Yeung worked hard and tirelessly to make this event a success. We're already looking forward to and planning on 2010!



Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming 2010 Events:

- Mixer on Jan 27th
- Chinese New Year Dinner on Feb 28th

President's Message



Happy New Year and best wishes for good health happiness, prosperity! 2010 brings us changes and challenges as we move forward. I will be collaborating with Vice President Ben Yeung, who will be working with me to get the job done. Lisa La will be concentrating on her career. We truly appreciate her time and effort which was very beneficial to the success of our chapter. I am grateful that Secretary Melodie Lew and Treasurer Jacob Chu will be returning. Chris Bush will handle the Events

Chair responsibilities. She has shown a keen interest in putting together an assorted variety of attractive events. Newcomer Ivy Shen will be taking over the Membership Chair position. She is a New York Life Representative with a "go getter" attitude.

I would also like to welcome our High School Interns for this year. Emily Lin (Publications), Thomas Yeh (Public Relations) and Chris Wong (Technology). I am confident that they will do a good job.

Fundraising and sponsorship will play a key role in funding our signature programs: Speak and Lead with Pride, as David Chai guides and assists students to develop the confidence and skills necessary to become effective speakers. Scholarships are rewarded to students who are in need of some financial assistance as they continue with college. Melodie Lew is in charge of selecting students based on factors such as counselor and teacher recommendations, community involvement and grades. Special thanks to our faithful benefactors.

Many thanks to our membership, friends and supporters. Maintaining and establishing relationships are important. Your constructive comments and suggestions on how we can improve our chapter are welcome.

I look forward to seeing you again!

2010 Officers & Directors

Martin Jung, *President*

Ben Yeung, *Vice President*

Jacob Chu, *Treasurer*

Melodie Lew, *Secretary*

Committee Chairs

Joanne Tong, *YOCA*

David Chai, *Speak & Lead Program*

Chris Bush, *Events*

Ivy Shen, *Membership*

Alden Soohoo, *Co-Chair Scholarship*

Melodie Lew, *Co-Chair Scholarship*

Chris Wong, *Newsletter*

Leonard Chan, *Website*

Additional Directors

Walter Chao, Arlene Chang, Franklin Kang, Chris Bush, and Ben Yeung

2010 Advisory Council

Dr. David Shen, DMD - Orthodontist, Chairman

Monica Yeung Arima - Real Estate Broker

Dr. Samuel Chan - Cardiologist

Dr. Shu-Wing Chan - Cardiologist

Hon. Jerry Hill - S.M. County Supervisor

David Louie - KGO-TV Reporter

Wade Loo - Real Estate Broker

Elizabeth Tsai - Best Western/ Los Prados Inn

Martin Yan - Yan Can Cook Show

Doris Morse - Sister Cities Int'l

Maggie Mui - Sr. V.P. Wells Fargo

Philip Wang - Publisher

OCA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name(s) _____
 (please include all names if family membership)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (Day) _____ (Night) _____

Email _____ Occupation _____

Family, \$50 Individual, \$40 Student, \$25

I am interested in helping in the following areas:

Activities Public Affairs Membership
 Newsletter Fundraising Other

Send application to: OCA San Mateo Chapter, P.O. Box 218, San Mateo, CA 94401

**Organization of Chinese Americans, Inc.
 Peninsula Chapter of San Mateo County
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 San Mateo, CA 94401**

TO: