

ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS OF LONG ISLAND NEWSLETTER

SUNRISE



Spring 2010
Vol. 29, No. 1

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday, March 12, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.
Trinity Lutheran Church
5 Durham Road
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

PROGRAM

Jane Wong from the LI Care Center will provide information about the services, specialties, rehabilitation program, long term skilled care, the Asian Unit, and more at this Queens facility.

John Tandana, Ph.D and Jean Lau Chin, Ed.D. will give a presentation on the "The Forgotten Holocausts of the World." Dr. Lau, whose mother escaped the Nanjing atrocities will share her mother's story.

Mamie Tape's Story—a Loni Ding film about a girl who was barred from attending school because she was Asian...and her parent's fight for her equal rights all the way to the California Supreme Court.

Information on Census 101 and Frequently Asked Questions



UPCOMING EVENTS

CCLI Anniversary Party—March 6, 2010
East Manor, Flushing

CAANH Gala—March 13, 2010
Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury

CAREA Banquet—March 19, 2010
Honoring Gladys Yan, 6 PM
Mudan Restaurant, 136-17 39 Ave, Flushing
\$65/person, \$600/table

OCA-LI Appreciation Luncheon
March 28, 2010, 2:30 PM—5:15 PM
Yummy Kitchen
252-20 Northern Blvd, Little Neck

Immigration Stories—Symposium
Co-sponsored by OCA-LI
May 6, 2010, 7 PM—9:30 PM
Stony Brook University, Wang Center

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By ANN CHAN



OCA-LI President Ann Chan

I am flattered and feeling so humble that at the OCA-LI board meeting, you have selected me, Ann Elizabeth Chan, to be your president beginning in 2010. It will be very difficult to follow the footsteps of former president Gladys Yan. Her enthusiasm and energy gave us hope to carry on. In spite of many obstacles, Gladys always took part in countless activities to represent OCA-LI. She took her position seriously and helped the Long Island chapter win many awards at the OCA national conventions over the years.

My past experience as VP of Programming and Executive VP at OCA-LI opened many doors of opportunities to network with other organizations.

Thanks to Mary Tsang for introducing us to MORUS, a Fukien cultural and educational association. Although my Cantonese Chinese dialect might be different from members in this group, Mary Tsang and Polly Wan were always there to translate what I wanted to relate to their members. At the US Merchant Marine Academy where we visited the museum, they explained to the group the opportunities at the academy for their children in training for a lucrative career. When Howard and I served as docents at our Museum of Chinese Americans (MOCA) at 215 Centre Street in NYC, we urged MORUS members to document their experiences on MOCA computers so that their stories might be collected. On that day, a wonderful couple, Mr. & Mrs. Ezekiel Wan, volunteered to help translate at any time from an assortment of many Chinese dialects the stories of members in the group on computers at the facility. This type of volunteering is exactly what I hope to see in our OCA-LI members in the new administration, as well as working with others groups and achieving harmony in our goals for the future.

When I return from Florida, together with newly selected board members as well as experienced OCA officers, we will work in bringing in new ideas. I am encouraged and looking forward to a productive and spectacular future.

May you and your families be blessed in this fearless Tiger year.



Dr. Jean Lau Chin

Meet New Board Member Dr. Jean Lau Chin

Jean Lau Chin, Ed.D., ABPP is Professor and Dean of the Derner Institute for Advanced Psychological Studies at Adelphi University in Garden City. Dr. Chin has had a distinguished career as an educator, administrator, clinician, and scholar including being the Systemwide Dean of California School of Professional Psychology at Alliant International University in California, and the Executive Director of South Cove Community Health Center serving the Asian American communities in Massachusetts.

As a psychologist, she has trained psychologists and health care professionals and provided psychotherapy and assessment services. She has extensive publications and books in the areas of diversity and cultural competence; clinical training; Asian American and women's issues; health and mental health; and leadership. Her most recent books include: Diversity in Mind and in Action, The Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination, and Women and Leadership: Transforming Visions and Diverse Voices. She also published Learning from My Mother's Voice—an oral history of her mother about the Chinese-American immigration experience.

She has served in many leadership positions on national, state and local boards on women's issues, eliminating mental health and health disparities, cultural competence, and is currently an advisory board member of ERASE Racism, and Nassau County Mental Health Association on Long Island. She is also President of the Division of Women's Issues, New York State Psychological Association, and President-Elect of the Society for the Study of Ethnic Minorities, the American Psychological Association.

She was the first Asian American to be licensed as a clinical psychologist in Massachusetts in 1973. She received her doctorate in psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University, and has received awards for her leadership and work.

While her career has been outside New York, she grew up in Brooklyn, and recently returned to the New York City area. She raised two sons, and is married to Gene Chin.

OCA-LI Goes to Westchester



On November 7, 2009, OCA-LI members attended the OCA-Westchester & Hudson Valley Dynamic Achiever Award Gala

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VP Communications	Janis Woo
VP Finance	Joseph Chu
VP Education	Dr. Gary Mar
VP Membership	Shuet Y. Lam
VP Hospitality	Mary Chu

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Mary Chu	Frank Shih, Ph.D
Peter Gong	John Tandana, Ph.D
Kevin Kim	Mary Tsang
Shuet Y. Lam	Janis Woo
	Gladys Yan

Advisor

Jim Chin-Bow

OCA is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan civil rights organization, with 81 chapters and affiliates across the country. It was founded to ensure the civil rights of the APA Community. It is headquartered in Washington, D.C.

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General Membership Meeting



At the general membership meeting on December 4, 2009, OCA-LI members held elections for the new Board of Directors. In attendance were Town of North Hempstead officials: Senator Kemp Hannon, Legislator Judi Bosworth and Legislator Wayne Wink who are standing in front right with OCA-LI members.

At the meeting, Senator Hannon (R-Garden City) said, "The Long Island OCA's community-based advocacy and leadership development initiatives provide an incredible service to our State. I commend the OCA for seeking to secure the rights of all Chinese Americans and emphasizing the importance of a culturally and politically educated community."

OCA-LI Marches in Flushing Parade



On February 20, 2010, OCA-LI members marched down Main Street in Flushing alongside students from Flushing HS in celebration of the Lunar New Year of the White Tiger. Thousands of enthusiastic community residents and spectators lined the sidewalks on this sunny day to view the numerous groups who serve and participate in the life of the Queens community.



Gladys Yan Honored by Flushing Chinese Business Association



On January 22, 2010, FCBA held their annual fundraiser at Terrace on the Park, where special awards were presented for community service and outstanding leadership. Holding plaques above (left to right) are FCBA Volunteer & Senior Journalist Edmond Chou, Past OCA-LI President Gladys Yan, NYS Assemblywoman Grace Meng, NYC Comptroller John Liu, and NYPD 109 Precinct Inspector Michael Whelan. CCBA President Justin Yu and Director of CPC Nan Shan Senior Center Michael Wang also received awards.



OCA-LI members attended the FCBA event in support of Gladys Yan, who was one of the distinguished honorees. **Seated:** John Tandana, Alice & Frank Shih, Anna Tom. **Standing:** Mary Tsang, Janis & Gene Woo, Karen Leung, Lloyd Doppman, Gladys Yan, Nancy Chin, Mary Chu, Jeanne Jackson, Irene Gong, Ging Tom, Jimmy Tsang, Steven Gong.



Lily Lee Honored by NYS Chinese Auxiliary Police Association

New York State Chinese Auxiliary Police Association held a lunar new year banquet on January 10th at the Asian Jade restaurant in Flushing. OCA-LI board member Lily Lee was one of the many awardees who received a certificate from the association for "Community Contribution."

In photo, Lily Lee (center) accepts award from Ellen Young, current president of the association, and Peter Koo, the elected NYC Councilman from District 20 in Queens.

2010 OCA-LI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	E-MAIL
January 10	Peter Koo Inauguration, Flushing Town Hall, 2 PM	Gladys Yan	gladysyan@aol.com
January 10	Chinese American Auxiliary Police Assn., Jade Asian Rest., Flushing	Lily Lee	lilyc28@gmail.com
January 22	FCBA 28th Annual Dinner Dance, Terrace on the Park, Queens	Gladys Yan	gladysyan@aol.com
January 23— 24	OCA National Board Meeting, Irvine, CA	Ann Chan	annachan80@verizon.net
February 20	Flushing Lunar New Year Parade OCA-LI Marching, 11AM—1 PM	Mary Chu Gene Woo Gladys Yan	silverazn@aol.com gjmwoo@juno.com gladysyan@aol.com
February 27	Asian Pacific American Postal Employees Association (AAPEA) East Manor Restaurant, Elmhurst, Queens, 6 PM	Karen Leung	kleung0805@yahoo.com
February 27	CAANH Lunar New Year Performance, Herricks HS, 7 PM	Janis Woo	gjmwoo@juno.com
March 1	OCA National Convention Registration Available On-Line		www.ocanational.org
March 6	Chinese Center on Long Island (CCLI) 50th Anniversary Party East Manor Restaurant, Flushing	Mary Chu Ann Chan	silverazn@aol.com annachan80@verizon.net
March 12	OCA-LI Open House/General Membership Meeting Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hyde Park , 7:30 PM	Gladys Yan Mary Chu	gladysyan@aol.com silverazn@aol.com
March 13	Chinese American Association of North Hempstead (CAANH) Gala Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury, 7 PM—12 AM	Janis Woo	gjmwoo@juno.com
March 19	Chinese American Real Estate Association (CAREA) 16th Annual Banquet, Queens Crossing Mudan Banquet Hall	Lily Lee Gladys Yan	lilyc28@gmail.com gladysyan@aol.com
March 28	OCA-LI Appreciation Luncheon, Yummy Kitchen 252-20 Northern Blvd, Little Neck, 2:30-5:15 PM	Mary Chu Gladys Yan Janis Woo	silverazn@aol.com gladysyan@aol.com gjmwoo@juno.com
April 17– 18	OCA National Board Meeting, Atlanta, GA.	Ann Chan	annachan80@verizon.net
May 6	OCA-LI Co-sponsoring <i>Immigration Stories</i> Stony Brook University, Wang Center, Main Theatre, 7 PM	Dr. Gary Mar	garyronaldmar@gmail.com
May 7	Society of Asian Federal Officers (SOAFO) Celebration Brooklyn, NY	Cammy Lee Gladys Yan	cammy_clff@yahoo.com gladysyan@aol.com
June 11	OCA-LI General Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hyde Park, 7:30 PM	Ann Chan Mary Chu	annachan80@verizon.net silverazn@aol.com
June (to be announced)	American Cancer Society — Asian Initiative Unit Team OCA-LI—Relay for Life	Donna Lee	donna_ocali@hotmail.com
June 17—20	OCA National Convention, Houston, TX.	Ann Chan	annachan80@verizon.net
September 10	OCA-LI General Membership Meeting Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hyde Park, 7:30 PM	Ann Chan Mary Chu	annachan80@verizon.net silverazn@aol.com
September 12	OCA Multi-Chapter Picnic Van Saun Park, Paramus, NJ	Gene Woo Joseph Chu Peter Gong	gjmwoo@uno.com joechumail@gmail.com gongho12@verizon.net
October 18	American Cancer Society Breast Cancer Walk Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens	Donna Lee Ann Chan	donna_ocali@hotmail.com annachan80@verizon.net
October 22	OCA Corporate Achievement Awards, Washington, DC	Ann Chan	annachan80@verizon.net
October 23-24	OCA National Board Meeting, Washington, DC	Ann Chan	annachan80@verizon.net
October (to be announced)	OCA-LI Co-Sponsoring Candidates' Forum	Gladys Yan	gladysyan@aol.com
November 6	OCA-LI 29th Anniversary Gala	Gladys Yan Ann Chan Dr. Frank Shih	gladysyan@aol.com annachan80@verizon.net fshif@gmail.com
December 10	OCA-LI General Membership Election Meeting Trinity Lutheran Church, New Hyde Park	Ann Chan Mary Chu	annachan80@verizon.net silverazn@aol.com

NEWS FROM NATIONAL

OCA celebrates achievements of two APA leaders



Kiran Ahuja

Kiran Ahuja was recently named executive director of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. Ahuja was the founding executive director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum and an honor trial attorney with the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division. OCA is excited to work with her and

the President's Advisory Commission on AAPIs.

Also, on December 1, the U.S. Senate confirmed Judge Jacqueline Nguyen as a federal district judge in the Central District of California. She is the first Vietnamese-American woman to serve as a federal district court judge in the U.S. Today, APAs make up less than 1% of all federal judges.



Jacqueline Nguyen

OCA criticizes Bo Dietl for offensive behavior

OCA, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans, was disturbed by former NYPD detective Bo Dietl's behavior on the November 9th installation of the Don Imus show. During the show, Dietl poked fun at journalist Katie Couric's appearance by stating, "She's got her eyes pulled so far, she's starting to look Chinese herself...ten years ago, she looked American. Today she looks Oriental." He also pulled his eyes back in a "slant-eye" gesture.



Bo Dietl

regarding Americans of Asian descent to suggest that Couric looked un-American. The term "Oriental" and the slant-eye gesture fall within a long and unfortunate history of people mocking and denigrating individuals of Asian descent.

Dietl is often featured on Imus' show as well as other Fox News programs. OCA strongly objects to allowing Dietl to continue to have airtime on any news network.

OCA encourages all concerned citizens to send a letter objecting to Dietl's behavior to Roger Ailes, president of Fox News Channel, at 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

The Berlin Wall

By John Tandana

On November 9, 2009, Germany celebrated the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, which was erected during the Cold War in 1961 by the East German government to keep its citizens from fleeing to the West. The Berlin Wall stretched over a hundred miles. It ran through the center of Berlin and wrapped around West Berlin, entirely cutting West Berlin off from the rest of East Germany. It consisted of concrete slabs reaching nearly 12-feet high and 4-feet wide, with a smooth pipe running across the top to hinder people from scaling the Wall. The Berlin Wall, often referred to as the "Iron Curtain," symbolized the division of Eastern and Western Europe during the Cold War, a struggle of ideology between communism and capitalism.

As Communism began to falter in Poland, Hungary, and Czechoslovakia in 1988 and 1989, new exodus points were opened to East Germans who wanted to flee to the West. Then, on the evening of November 9, 1989, the East



John Tandana at Brandenburg Gate in Berlin

German government declared, "Permanent relocations can be done through all border checkpoints ..." The Wall then started to crack, first with hammers and chisels, then eventually chipped away, into smaller pieces. The pieces have become collectibles and are stored in both homes and museums all around the world. After the Berlin Wall came down, East and West Germany reunified into a single German state on October 3, 1990.

For those like me, who used to live and study in West Berlin, we were definitely part of the history as citizens of West Berlin. We have witnessed life on both sides of the Wall. I had contacts with East Berliners, who were very nice, but hungry for the freedom that people in the West could enjoy. We used to cross East Germany by car and train, stopped for hours at the border crossing for passport control and car search, to avoid a smuggling of East Germans to the West.

On November 1, 2009, I drove from Hamburg to Berlin. I was invited to Germany to attend a birthday party of a German friend, and to give a power point presentation at Leuphana University as a guest speaker.

(Continued on next page)



Christa Tandana (center) was on a mission trip in Haiti when the earthquake struck

Christa reporting from Haiti... I'm alive... Things to ponder about...

January 13, 2010—A 7.0-7.3 out of 9.0 on the Richter scale earthquake hit Haiti today at around 5 PM. Our team was fortunately in the house and not in Peti-

try. What pride and arrogance... There needs to be repentance in this nation... please pray for this.

I keep thinking about how everyone is responding to this - from myself to the people on the team to the people in Haiti to the rest of the world. There is nothing set up in Haiti to help with anything. All of the help is coming from the outside. There are very few hospitals and doctors and limited resources for anything. Hospitals are full, generators are down and everyone is hurting and has no place to go.

Yesterday, we walked all the way down to La Boule, where there is a sand quarry where a lot of damage was done. Along the way, there were several people walking towards higher up on the mountains. Many people were wounded and we were able to clean their wounds and bandage them and give them antibiotics or painkillers. There was a girl who was the only remaining survivor from a school that had collapsed. There was a general look of hopelessness on people's faces. I can't imagine what it's like to lose your home, your family, your children.

Communication has been down. The cell phone system is not working and there is no electricity and limited supplies of everything. I'm so thankful that we have a generator and satellite internet and phone.

The control tower at the airport was hit and all commercial flights are suspended until Sunday. My flight is on Tuesday, so it should be fine. I am not worried because I am in the hands of the God who controls this universe. Whom shall I fear?

Thank you all again for praying and please continue to do so. I love you all and I hope that you have something to read about after reading this if you don't pray...

And what a strange way to spend my birthday, but there's no place I'd rather be right now.

Christa Tandana is a sophomore at Pace University, who is considering a career as a photojournalist. She is the daughter of OCA-LI board member, John Tandana. OCA-LI expresses concern over the grave situation in Haiti and encourages members to support the relief effort.

ville or Port-au-Prince or somewhere on a steep mountain. We're all alive and safe, but felt the shakes. But thank God we're alive.

First of all, I want to thank everyone for all of the comments of concern, prayers, and birthday wishes! You always wonder if anything happened to you, who would care? And it has been really interesting and very encouraging to hear from you all. I love you and thankful for you. I am still in shock of God's timing in all of this. Haiti has not had an earthquake in 40 years and the last one was not even nearly as severe...

I was sitting on my bed with my camera reviewing photos. All of a sudden the room began to shake. At first, I thought something huge fell or something. Then, the entire house began to shake. I watched the bookshelf outside my door sway from side to side. Flashbacks of movie scenes rushed into my mind as I watched the lights swing and the globe fall onto the floor...

I was not even thinking of getting out of the house to a safe place or anything. When it calmed down, David, one of the students on the team rushed to see if I was okay. Everyone was outside and in shock. No one could believe what had just happened...

The entire experience was extremely disorienting. You really take for granted that the earth is always there and that it is always still. We know that the earth will pass away, but we don't really think about it.

The President's Palace collapsed and all the Preval had to say was that he didn't know where he would sleep that night...when he has several residential houses in the coun-

(Berlin Wall, continued from previous page)

As I approached Berlin, it was like home coming, a very touching moment. I sang all the way from Hamburg to Berlin, recalling days as a student hitchhiking. All the scenes were so familiar, it was like déjà vu. The "stage" has not changed much, but different actors definitely. All the memories of beautiful student times popped up, like it just happened not too long ago.

On this trip, I also visited my professor and the college we used to attend. Walking the same path from the subway

to the faculty building was an experience. Upon visiting the old border patrol "Check Point Charlie," the new Central Station, Alexander Platz in former East Berlin, the new Holocaust Memorial, I saw the transformation of a city. However, standing in front of The Brandenburg Gate, looking eastward and westward without any border or blockage and to walk freely, was the highlight of my trip.

I truly realize the meaning of "Freedom," which we often take for granted. To use the famous words of John F. Kennedy, I am also a Berliner - "Ich bin Berliner."

JOIN US TODAY!

OCA-Long Island Chapter

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E Mail _____

Occupation (Optional) _____

Membership Type:

Individual (\$30) Family (\$50)

Student (\$15) Business (\$100)

LI Single Life (\$500) LI Family Life (\$750)

National Single Life (\$1000)

National Family Life (\$1500)

New Renewal

Spouse's Name _____

Children's Names & Ages _____

Referred By _____

Please make check payable to: OCA-Long Island

Mail to: Shuet Lam
VP Membership
42-05 147th Street,
Flushing, New York 11355

Phone: 917-969-5092

Email: shuetlam@msn.com



Helen Chan

Condolences

Helen Lee Chan

Former Board Member and Adviser at OCA-LI

Helen Lee Chan, former board member and adviser at OCA-LI, died of heart failure on December 19, 2010 at Nassau University Medical Center.

Born in 1925 in Mount Holly, New Jersey, Helen helped her parents with a family laundry business. After she graduated from high school, the family moved to Philadelphia where she met her husband, the late Kenneth Chan. In 1951, the couple moved to Hempstead where they raised three children.

Helen worked as a bookkeeper, but her energies were dedicated to Chinese cultural and social organizations and her church. She is one of the founders of the Long Island Chinese Circle and among a group of Chinese-Americans to form the Chinese Circle on Long Island.

Survived by her children, Jeffrey Chan, Phyllis Chan-Carr, Pamela Lee and one grandson, a funeral service was held at the Congregational Church of South Hempstead. Her presence, support and kindness will be missed by all her friends at OCA-LI.

2010 OCA-LI Scholarship Awards

In memory of Helen Chan

To honor the memory of Helen Chan, who will be remembered for her commitment to assisting Asian American students in understanding their culture and heritage, the OCA-Long Island Scholarship Awards in 2010 will be given in her name.

Please see the insert in this newsletter for eligibility requirements, essay information, and judging criteria. If there are questions, please contact Dr. Gary Mar at garyronaldmar@gmail.com.



Organization of Chinese Americans
Long Island Chapter
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