

ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS OF LONG ISLAND NEWSLETTER

SUNRISE



Spring 2011
Vol. 30, No. 1

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Friday, March 11, 2011

ADELPHI UNIVERSITY, 7:30 PM

Alumni House (see map on page 8)

154 Cambridge Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530

PROGRAM

Dr. Neeta Shah, VP of Women's Health Programs at North Shore/LIJ, will present: "It's Your Time—Take Charge," on women's medical and wellness issues. (See article on page 1 below).

Refreshments will be served.

ATTENTION

*High School Juniors & Seniors
OCA-LI Scholarship Awards*

See insert & website for essay contest question & details.

Deadline: July 4, 2011



UPCOMING EVENTS

CCLI Anniversary Party—March 5, 2011
Jade Asian Restaurant, Flushing

CAANH Gala—March 12, 2011
Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury

CAREA Banquet—March 18, 2011
Mudan Restaurant, Flushing

5th Asian American Cultural Festival
April 16, 2011, 1—5 PM, free program
5—9 PM, \$25 reception & performance
Farmingdale State College

Liberty & Justice for All Symposium
May 5, 2011, 7 PM—9:30 PM
Stony Brook University, Wang Center

Second Asian Festival in Town of North Hempstead—May 21, 2011, 12 PM
Hempstead Harbor Park, Port Washington

Chinese American Night—June 5, 2011
Eisenhower Park, East Meadow

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By ANN CHAN



Ann Chan (left) and Elaine Chu (right back) at Chinatown Planning Council in Flushing with CPC's director Lois Lee (right front) and children.

On January 18, 2011, OCA-LI members took a trip to Chinatown Planning Council's after school program in Flushing. We brought hats which were knitted by our partners from the Long Island Chinese Circle, Chinese Center on Long Island's Senior Club, Golden Club of Levittown as well as OCA-LI. Candies, toys, scarves and gloves were also donated. Many thanks to Emma Don, Cathy Jue, Susie Cheung, Lily Lee & Vincent Lee, Ellie & Ted Ho for their generosity. A copy of *Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America* by Judy Yung and Erika Lee was also donated to CPC by the OCA-LI chapter.

Dr. Neeta Shah will speak in March at OCA-LI's General Membership Meeting



Dr. Neeta Shah, MD, is the Vice President of Women's Health Services for the North Shore-LIJ Health System. Her role in the 15 hospitals in the health system is to work closely with clinical chairs and hospital administrators to expand and coordinate women's health services to meet women's healthcare services across their life span.

She is an adjunct associate professor at the NY College of Osteopathic Medicine and a fellow of the American College of Physicians. She has received many prestigious honors and awards. She was educated at J.N. Medical College in Belgaum, India, and completed her residency at Flushing Hospital Medical Center.

An evening in honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day and dedicated to combating genocide

By Dr. Jean Lau Chin



OCA-LI members from left to right : John Tandana, John Kung, Gladys Yan, Sulia Chan, Cambodian holocaust survivor Nhi Chan, Ann Chan and speaker Dr. Jean Lau Chin.

The Queens College Center for Ethnic, Racial and Religious Understanding, STAND and the International Holocaust Remembrance Day Organizing Committee sponsored this event on February 15, 2011. Many OCA-LI members were in attendance in support of its goal to prevent future acts of genocide based on a resolution passed by the United Nations.

Among the 12 speakers speaking on holocausts in countries around the world were Nhi Chan, speaking on her horrific experience in the killing fields of Cambodia and its concentration camps during the Pol Pot regime, and myself, speaking on the holocaust and massacre at Nanking as one of the black marks in the history of mankind by the Japanese against the Chinese--one that is burned into the memories and minds of many. We need to remember so it will not be repeated.

Iris Chang wrote about it. My mother experienced it. The Rape of Nanking had lifelong consequences and was traumatic to all.

Comments from Iris Chang's book:

The Rape of Nanking, (Chang, 1997)

The Rape of Nanking (Nanjing) in history refers to the almost unbelievable orgy of violence unleashed over several months by the Japanese army after it occupied Nanking, the capital of Nationalist China, in December 1937. There is dispute about the death toll, but most serious scholars place it in the hundreds of thousands. Chinese men were forced at gunpoint to rape their mothers and daughters. Japanese soldiers gang-raped women by the tens of thousands. They nailed women to trees. They drove stakes through their vaginas. They bound the hands of Chinese men, lined them up in long rows, and machine-gunned them into huge burial ditches. They bayoneted babies in front of their mothers. They buried people alive. Soldiers had "killing contests" and boasted to Japanese reporters of their scores. The Nanking atrocities were well publicized throughout the world at the time and are usually mentioned in the standard Western histories of World War II. The memory of the rape of Nanking remains very much alive; it was not until 1985 that the government permitted a museum of the atrocities to be built there.

The re-experience via historical research by Iris Chang was so powerful that it was one of the contributing factors to Iris Chang's suicide.

(Continued on page 7)

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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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OCA-LI Hosts Holiday Election Luncheon



On December 11, 2010, OCA-LI hosted a holiday luncheon at Asian Buffet in New Hyde Park, where over 40 members gathered to socialize as well as to elect new board members. Candidates delivered rousing speeches, and the following were elected: Ben Chan, Joe Chu, Pearl Dong, Larry Fong, Peter Gong, Kevin Kim, Donna Lee, Gary Mar, Sherry Tsang, Lee Tu, Janis Woo and Gladys Yan. The entire board looks forward to an exciting new year for OCA-LI.

OCA-LI Marches in Flushing Parade



On February 12, 2011, OCA-LI members marched down Main Street in Flushing alongside students from Flushing High School. In celebration of the Lunar New Year of the Rabbit, OCA-LI members gave red envelopes filled with candy to the children in the crowd, while students yelled, "Gung Hey Fat Choy." Community residents who came out to see the parade responded enthusiastically to the gifts and chants.

Rush Limbaugh Mocks Chinese President Hu Jintao

By Frank Shih, Ph.D

OCA National has joined many civic groups and elected leaders in condemning a recent incident by Rush Limbaugh, the right-wing radio talk show host when he mocked China's President Hu Jintao. After complaining of the lack of frequent translation in a January 19 program, Limbaugh mimicked Hu's speech with a childish "ching-chong, ching-chong..." imitation. Leland Yee, a California State Senator and a candidate for mayor of San Francisco has called for a boycott of Limbaugh's advertisers. He has created an online petition on his website: <http://www.lelandyee.com/take-action/rush-boycott/>. New York State Assemblywoman Grace Meng has demanded an apology.



OCA-Long Island has joined OCA National in expressing our outrage by signing on to a letter that is printed below. The letter is addressed to Mark Mays, the Chairman of the Board of Clear Channel Communications, Inc. Clear Channel owns Premiere Radio Networks, Inc. which airs Limbaugh's show.

You can hear Rush Limbaugh's comments here: http://blogs.ajc.com/cynthia-tucker/2011/01/19/a-new-low-for-rush-limbaugh/?cxntfid=blogs_cynthia_tucker.

February 2, 2011

Mr. Mark Mays
Chairman of the Board
Clear Channel
200 East Basse Road
San Antonio, TX 78209

Re: Rush Limbaugh's Mockery of the Chinese Language

Dear Mr. Mays:

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to express our outrage at Rush Limbaugh's recent on-air comments regarding President Obama's meeting with the Chinese President. During his radio broadcast on January 19, 2011 on Premier Radio Networks, Limbaugh mocked President Hu speaking Chinese, reducing the more than 3,000 year old language to "Ching Chong, Ching Chong" and much worse. America prides itself on being the most ethnically diverse country in the world where hundreds of different languages are spoken and a variety of cultures and religions are practiced and respected. This is a cherished American value that has lived on for centuries and continues today.

Limbaugh's derogatory mimicking of President Hu's comments in Chinese is offensive to not only Americans of Chinese descent but to all Americans who believe and practice tolerance and respect for different cultures. The Chinese language, just like Romanized languages, is a beautiful spoken language. When Rush Limbaugh relegates it to "Ching Chong, Ching Chong" and other derogatory depictions, it demeans not only the president of a major world power, but billions of people who speak this language in the U.S. and worldwide. Limbaugh's imitation perpetuates an ugly practice of using Asian Pacific Americans as fodder for jokes. These hurtful words and depictions can also precipitate hate incidents and hate crimes directed against Asian Pacific Americans.

Limbaugh's program is broadcast across the nation by your company and sends the message to millions that it is acceptable to ridicule a person or group that is different than you. Furthermore, Clear Channel's silence with regard to Limbaugh's derogatory statements and refusal to apologize for them sends an even louder message that Clear Channel does not value the Asian Pacific American customer base.

Your father and Clear Channel founder, Lowry Mays, said it best: "To reach our dreams, we must make allowances for each other, and we must be open to change and accommodation. Our differences can be our greatest strength-if we let them." In the spirit of your father's own words on diversity and inclusion, the undersigned groups call upon you, as the current Chairman of the Board of Clear Channel Communications, Inc., to defend American values of tolerance and respect for people who may be different than you. We ask that you hold your company and employees accountable for the racially insensitive comments made on-air on January 19. We ask you to direct Clear Channel Communications, Inc. and its subsidiary Premier Radio Networks to terminate Rush Limbaugh immediately. We are also seeking an unequivocal public apology by Clear Channel Communications and Rush Limbaugh.

We look forward to your immediate response and are willing to meet with you to discuss this matter. You can reach the groups by contacting George Wu, Executive Director of OCA by phone, (202) 223-5500 or by e-mail, gwu@ocanational.org.

Sincerely,

(Signed by 23 national and local organizations and 14 OCA chapters including OCA-Long Island)

2011 OCA-LI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	CONTACT	E-MAIL
January 14-16	OCA National Board Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada	Gene Woo	gjmwoo@juno.com
January 18	OCA-LI Serves Chinatown Planning Council (CPC), Flushing, NY	Ann Chan	annachan80@yahoo.com
January 28	FCBA 29th Annual Dinner Dance, Terrace on the Park, Queens	Gladys Yan	gladysyan@aol.com
February 8	1882 Project, NYC	Jean Lau Chin	chin@Adelphi.edu
February 12	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 12	CAANH Lunar New Year Performance, Herricks HS	Janis Woo	gjmwoo@juno.com
February 15	International Holocaust Remembrance Day, Queens College	John Tandana	dringtan2@yahoo.com
March 5	Chinese Center on Long Island (CCLI) 51st Anniversary Party Jade Asian Restaurant, Flushing, NY	Ann Chan	annachan80@yahoo.com
March 11	OCA-LI Open House/General Membership Meeting Adelphi University, Alumni House, 7:30 PM	Lee Tu	ltu2@aol.com
March 12	Chinese American Association of North Hempstead (CAANH) Gala Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury	Janis Woo	gjmwoo@juno.com
March 12	Asian American Postal Employees Association	Karen Leung	kleung0805@yahoo.com
March 18	Chinese American Real Estate Association (CAREA) 17th Annual Banquet, Queens Crossing Mudan Banquet Hall	Lily Lee Gladys Yan	lilyc28@gmail.com gladysyan@aol.com
April 16	5th Asian American Cultural Festival, Farmingdale State College	Frank Shih	fhmshih@gmail.com
April 16-17	OCA National Board Meeting, Chicago, Illinois	Ann Chan	annachan80@yahoo.com
May 5	Liberty & Justice for All with Author Judy Yung Stony Brook University, Wang Center, Main Theatre, 7 PM	Gary Mar	GaryRonaldMar7@gmail.com
May 6	Society of Asian Federal Officers (SOAFO) Celebration Restaurant in Brooklyn to be announced	Cammy Lee Gladys Yan	cammy_clf@yahoo.com gladysyan@aol.com
May 21	2nd Asian American Festival in Town of North Hempstead Bar Beach Park, Port Washington	Janis Woo Ann Chan Frank Shih	gjmwoo@juno.com annachan80@yahoo.com fhmshih@gmail.com
May 25	State APA Day— State Assemblywoman Grace Meng, Albany, NY	Gladys Yan	gladysyan@aol.com
June 5	Nassau County Chinese American Night, Eisenhower Park	Janis Woo	gjmwoo@juno.com
June 10	OCA-LI General Meeting, Location TBD, 7:30 PM	Lee Tu	ltu2@aol.com
June (TBD)	American Cancer Society — Asian Initiative Unit Team OCA-LI—Relay for Life	Donna Lee	donna_ocali@hotmail.com
August 4-7	OCA National Convention, Grand Hyatt, NYC	Frank Shih	fhmshih@gmail.com
September 18	OCA Multi-Chapter Picnic Van Saun Park, Paramus, NJ	Joseph Chu Peter Gong Gene Woo	joechumail@gmail.com gonghopeter12@gmail.com gjmwoo@juno.com
October 21	OCA-LI 30th Anniversary Gala Dae Dong Manor, Flushing, NY	Frank Shih	fhmshih@gmail.com
October (TBD)	OCA National Board Meeting, Corporate Achievement Awards, Washington, DC	Ann Chan	annachan80@yahoo.com
November 4	OCA-LI General Membership Meeting Location TBD, 7:30 PM	Lee Tu	ltu2@aol.com
November (TBD)	Council for Prejudice Reduction, Suffolk County	Frank Shih	fhmshih@gmail.com
December (TBD)	OCA-LI Appreciation Luncheon Location TBD	Ann Chan	annachan80@yahoo.com

1882 Project

By Dr. Jean Lau Chin

A kickoff meeting of the 1882 Project was held on February 8, 2011 via teleconference including New York, Washington DC, and San Francisco hosted by Steering Committee Co-Chairs, Michael Lin (OCA) and Ted Gong (C.A.C.A), Haipei Shue (NCCA) and Frank Wu (Committee of 100). There were about 100 attendees including OCA members from chapters in these locations and other groups of interest including Museum of Chinese in America (MOCA) in New York and Chinese Historical Society in San Francisco. Jean Lau Chin, Gene Chin and Mary Tsang represented OCA-Long Island.

The 1882 Project is a nonpartisan grassroots effort led by key civil rights organizations, including OCA, C.A.C.A, Committee of 100, and NCCA, focused on educating policymakers and the public about the Chinese Exclusion Laws and the impact they had on our history. Project 1882 aim is to work with Congress to pass resolutions expressing regret for the implementation of the Chinese Exclusion Laws. These are a series of laws dating back to 1882 with the sole intent of excluding Chinese from this country. Its significance is that of a Civil Rights issue to correct the mistakes of the past, reestablish our rightful place in the US, and ensure that no such discrimination occurs in the future targeting any single racial/ethnic group. We want Congress to acknowledge and be accountable for its behavior and acts.

The law firm of Covington and Burling is providing pro bono legal services in support of this effort. Martin Gold, from the firm, presented a thorough, compelling and informative presentation about the history of these laws against the Chinese, and their racist and discriminatory intent, driven by economic and commercial interests, and grassroots mistrust and scapegoating of Chinese in America.

Judy Chu, Congresswoman from California, is sponsoring this legislation and plans to submit it sometime in May. Success of this effort will not occur without a mobilization of grassroots support among the Chinese American communities and their allies. The effort will involve a combination of advocacy and education. MOCA and the Chinese Historical Society is supporting the educational efforts to see that our youth and voters are educated about this dark page in the history of the U.S., and to ensure that struggles of our early Chinese American ancestors will not be forgotten. See <http://www.civilrightssuite.org/1882/InfoPage.php/iID/224> for more information. These efforts need the support of all Chinese American through our OCA chapters to educate and be educated, but most of all to mobilize legislative support for the resolution.

We need to contact our legislators to educate, inform, and urge them to support the passing of this resolution. A team of project members has created a website for the 1882 Project to which everyone can sign on to be kept abreast of the project, and to participate in campaigning for the passing of the resolution. The website is being developed as we speak. Sign on at: <http://www.1882Project.org>. Specific calls for action will be forthcoming.



Holocaust Remembrance by Jean Lau Chin, (continued from page 2)

Quotations from my book:

Learning from my Mother's Voice, which follows in my mother's voice—
(Chin, 2005, p. 82-84, TC Press)

The Escape from Nanjing (1937)

Then World War II started. It was a nasty war. The Japanese invaded Shanghai on July 7, Men-Guo 26 (1937), and were headed for Nanjing. When the news broke, we were afraid. We prepared to flee our homes and head for Hong Kong....From Nanjing, we had to reach a boat in Guangzhou in order to make the passage to Hong Kong. This was over 1,000 miles; transportation was poor in those days. The whole city was in chaos....We fled Nanjing by train to get to Guangzhou. I was carrying Sel Ming [my 5 year old son] on my back. I carried only one bag with a change of underwear; we had to leave most of our belongings because we could not carry them. First, we rode a fire-car (train) for two whole days from Nanjing to MoWu. Our whole family left together, including Dai Q [my brother], Sel Ming, Ah Gung, Ah Por, Poy Q [my cousin], and Hing Q [my cousin]. For three days and three nights, we rode the train. The train was packed with standing room only. There was no place to sit; there was no place to move. We had to sleep standing up. It was a long and strenuous trip. I carried Sel Ming on my back during this entire trip. I was exhausted and weak. After two days of riding like this, a soldier sitting in front of me took pity on me and told me to sit on his lap. There was no place to move or he would have given me his seat. He assured me not to worry about his intentions and insisted that I sit. I finally complied (not worrying about improprieties) because I was so tired.

There was no food or toilets on the train. All I had with me for food was a thermos of water and some soda crackers; that did not last *very long*. Everyone did his/her daily functions standing up; there was no place to go. We all tolerated the stench from one another. Several women were in the advanced stages of pregnancy. When they were due to deliver, the people standing nearby tried to move aside to make some room. The poor women had to give birth standing up....We were all exhausted. But, we dared not complain; we were frightened that the Japanese would overtake us and just felt lucky enough to be able to escape.

The train stopped at CherngSa for a rest. People were afraid to get off the train for fear that they could not get back on. Local residents came to the side of the train to sell us rice. Most of us hungrily grabbed for these limited morsels since we had not eaten for two days.... We were finally able to rest at Nam Hung after traveling for four



Jean Lau Chin's mother (in photo) fled with her family from Nanjing in 1937 and survived to tell her story.

days before starting out again on a boat for Hong Kong. It was crowded at the pier where the boat was docked. Everyone was frantic and anxious; they were afraid they would not get on. We waited on the pier all day from 6PM to 6AM the next morning so as not to lose our place in line. There was only one gangway and a mass of humanity struggling to reach safety. Everyone was fighting to board the boat; we had to use each other as a human ladder to get onboard. We climbed up from the pier through a porthole because we could not reach the gangway.

There were 30 of us who fled from Nanjing together including Poy Q, Hing Q, Dai Q and his family, Ah Gung, Ah Por, the Yeps and the Louies. Again the boat was packed. Seven of us had to sleep on one bed. There was no place to sit. We had to stand all night again until the boat arrived in Horn How. That's why those of us who made it to America are so close. (The bonds they created were lifelong as they shared the experience and trauma of fleeing Nanjing together. It was a bond that spanned continents in distance, and almost a half century in time as my mother was not to see them again for almost 40 years). ...Once in Hong Kong, we heard that the Japanese invaded Nanjing the day after we left and had pillaged the village. We were thankful that we were lucky enough to escape in time. That's why I have such strong feelings against the Japanese to this day.

My mother never forgot these experiences. Her trauma and suffering was lifelong. I share this vignette in my mother's voice with you to keep our memories alive. We need to link to our past to ensure our future that no group needs to endure such trauma again.

Though this was chronicled in the New York Times in 1937 and later, the Japanese government has never acknowledged that it happened. At the same time, we need to look to ourselves. In the U.S., Japanese Americans were sent to internment camps during WWII. Many anti-Chinese Exclusion Laws were passed by Congress from 1882 to 1921. Currently, there is a movement afoot—the 1882 Act—to seek a resolution from US Congress to apologize for these laws excluding the Chinese from entering this country. The Chinese has been the only group specifically targeted by such laws in the history of this country. We must act to support the passing of this resolution.

JOIN US TODAY!

OCA-Long Island Chapter

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E Mail: _____

Check one of the following membership terms & rates.

- Individual: 1 yr (\$40)
- Individual: 2 yr s (\$70) Individual: 5 yr s(\$140)
- Student: up to full time undergraduate (\$10)
- Family-2 adults & 2 children under 18: 1 yr (\$50)
- Family: 2 yrs (\$90) Family: 5 yrs (\$180)
- Senior 65+: 1 yr (\$20)
- Senior: 2 yrs (\$30) Senior: 5 yrs (\$60)
- National Single Life: (\$1000)
- National Family Life: 2 adults & 2 children who age out after 18: (\$1500)
- New Renewal

Spouse's Name: _____

Children's Names & Ages: _____

Please make check payable to: OCA-Long Island

Mail to: Donna Lee, VP Membership
223-44 56th Avenue,
Bayside, New York 11364

Phone: 917 833-5775

Email: birdhead50@hotmail.com

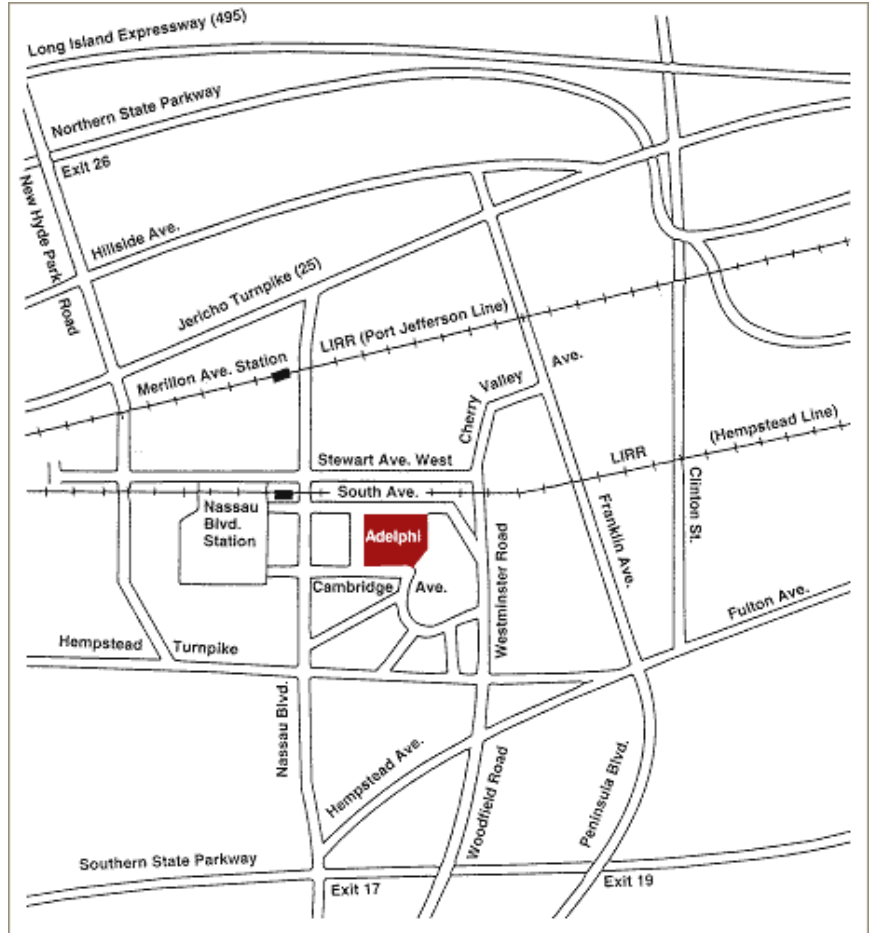
Adelphi University Area Map

OCA-LI General Meeting

Alumni House at Adelphi University

154 Cambridge Ave, Garden City, NY

March 11, 2011, 7:30 PM



Organization of Chinese Americans
 Long Island Chapter
 P.O. Box 2052
 Garden City, NY 11531

