



**SALINAS LODGE  
CHINESE AMERICAN CITIZENS ALLIANCE  
APRIL 2010 NEWSLETTER**

**Monthly Meeting  
Moved Up to Monday,  
April 5, 2010, 7 pm**

**Calendar**

**Sun, Apr 4, 1 pm**      **Easter Egg Hunt**  
@ Claremont Park if sunny  
@ Chinese School if rain

**Mon, Apr 5, 7 pm**      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Vic Blea)

**April 9**      **Scholarship**  
**Applications Due**

*Fri, Apr 23*      *Steinbeck Center Chinatown exhibit*  
*Opening Reception*

*Sat, Apr 24, 11 am-4 pm*      *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asian Cultural Fair*  
*Salinas Chinatown*

*Sat, Apr 24-*      *Steinbeck Center special exhibit opens*  
*May1-31*      *Asian Pacific Heritage Month*

**Sun, (May 9)??,**      **Mothers' Day Brunch??**

**Mon, May 10, 7 pm**      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Clara Chan)

*Fri-Wed, May 14-19*      *Grand Board Advocacy*  
*Trip to Washington, DC*

**Jun (??)**      **Dim Sum Brunch??**

**Mon, Jun 14, 7 pm**      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Joyce Lowe)

*Thu-Sat, Jun 24-26*      *Asian Pacific Islander*  
*Historical Preservation Forum (San Francisco)*

Sat, Jun or Jul(??)      **Giants/A's Baseball??**

Sat, Jul 10, 8 pm      **Colmo del Rodeo**  
**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversaruy Parade**

Mon, Jul 12, 7 pm      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Herb Wong)

*Sun, Jul ???, 11 am*      *Annual Chinese Community*  
*Picnic (incl. Scholarship Awards) @ Toro Park*

Mon, Aug 9, 7 pm      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Stan Chan)

*Sat, Aug 21*      *Grand Board Meeting*

Mon, Sep 13, 7 pm      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Connie Katz)

Mon, Oct 11, 7 pm      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Parker Chin)

Sat, Oct 16, 6 pm      **Salinas Lodge**  
**58<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner**

Mon, Nov 8, 7 pm      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Louis Lee)

Mon, Dec 13, 7 pm      **Monthly Mtg**  
(Sil yeh by Candice Chin))

**Dues.** Have you paid your dues for 2010? It's \$40 unless you are "Exempt." It's only \$25 if you are "Exempt." Collector Parker Chin is eagerly awaiting your check.

*Those who are "Exempt" are 30-year members and are also 70+ years old. It means they don't pay that \$15 portion of dues that would have gone to Grand Lodge.*

## Local News

**Jack Yee Mar, 1917-2010.** The entire Chinese Community of Salinas is saddened by the recent passing of Jack Yee Mar on March 11, 2010.

Our deepest condolences to his son Eugene Mar and family, brother Henry Mar and sister-in-laws Susan Mar and Frances Ong, nephew Douglas Mar and niece Diana and family.

Funeral services were held on Sunday, March 20, 2010, 1:00 p.m., in respect of which our Lodge's Annual Potluck and Monthly Meeting to be held that afternoon were cancelled.

**2010 Scholarship Applications due Friday, April 9, 2010.** Only one week left to apply for the joint CACA-Chung Wah Scholarship Program for 2010!

Last minute applicants can find the packet from the Lodge website: <http://www.cacasalinas.org>. But remember, applicants need to get several recommendation letters, all before the deadline. **No extensions will be granted!**

**U.S. Open Golf Tournament volunteering, Monday-Sunday, June 14-20, 2010.** By now, you'll have been asked if you to volunteer through CACA and attend the US Open besides helping our fundraiser for CACA's general funds.

The last time this prestigious gold tournament was here at Pebble Beach was 10 years ago. We will get to serve together rather than be scattered over the area. The deadline for us to submit the names of volunteers was April 2, 2010, but watch for further developments!

**Possible DLI Language Day fundraiser.** To be discussed at Monday's meeting is the feasibility of being a food vendor at the DLI's Language Day open house on Friday, May 14. To make this happen you would have to attend a briefing on Friday morning, May 7, as well as working on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We would have to send in paperwork to DLI by April 30.

**American Cancer Society—Relay for Life 2010—“Team Heartfire”:** Yes! There finally and really is a Chinese-community-based Relay For Life team for 2010. This is your opportunity to become a part of it.

Mona Lee and Vic Blea are this year's co-captains. With much-needed assistance from Albert Fong, who encouraged the participation of the Chinese Christian Church and the Alvarez High School boys and girls tennis teams, to mention just a few of his many contacts and possible participants, there may be enough team members and/or participants to field as many as *two* teams. What a feat that would be!

**But it can't happen without your cooperation and participation. Now is the time to become involved. Here's a summary of why your support is valued.**

Relay For Life was started by one man, hoping to raise awareness of this devastating disease. He was joined by others who pledged money to the American Cancer Society to help fund the research to fight cancer. Soon, entire communities joined in.

This year is the eleventh year that Salinas has held a Relay For Life. Salinas holds the distinction of being either the first or second city in the entire state of California to raise the

highest amount of money for cancer research. (Bakersfield is the only city to beat us, on occasion). Salinas also ranks in the top ten communities *in the nation* in fundraising.

Here are three options you may choose from...one or two or all three!

**(1) Team member;** a team member registers with the Salinas American Cancer Society under 'Team Heartfire', then pledges to raise \$100, and gets a commemorative T-shirt. Then the member goes to work contacting friends, family, acquaintances, co-workers, businesses, church and other social/community contacts for donations. Usually the donations are for money which count toward individual contributions, (remember the \$100 pledge and the T-shirt)?

Other donations can be for food and non-alcoholic drinks to fuel the relay team participants. And still other donations can be sellable items to be auctioned off at the relay itself. (Remember the really cool meat slicer that our own **Allen Gin** won with the purchase of only one raffle ticket at the relay only a couple of years ago, and subsequently donated it Chung Wah and CACA)?

**(2) & (3): Team “HEARTFIRE” *participants and donors*** do not have to register, but can still fundraise and provide support by helping to set up the relay tent site and provide food, drinks, snacks, walk a few laps around the track, buy and sell fundraising items, and help dismantle the tent site and clean up after the 24-hour event.

From Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM through Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM, the Salinas Relay For Life will be honoring cancer survivors and memorializing those who lost the battle by having at least one team member walk the track during the entire 24-hour event.

Do you see now why we need people? At least fifteen people are needed for a team. So far only two members have registered for team 'HEARTFIRE', your co-captains, Mona Lee and

Vic Blea. Although they are very active in the relay, participating at least eighteen of the 24 hours, they need help during the other six hours.

This year the Relay For Life will be held at the Salinas Sports Complex on North Main Street. Please look for either or both of them at upcoming CACA and Chung Wah events...

They will be fundraising, like selling \$5.00 raffle tickets for a chance to win a brand new Honda Civic from Sam Linder, his donation to the relay for the past few years.

Luminaria, those white bags with sand on the bottom and a candle lighting the way during the long night, will also be sold for \$5.00 each. The luminaria bags are tax deductible.

Please contact Mona Lee at 917-3478 (cell) or Vic Blea at 753-9864 (home) if you are able to help support team 'HEARTFIRE' in this year's Relay For Life and in what way you would like to help. And thanks to those who have already helped so far. Your donations and support are really appreciated.

**Como del Rodeo Parade Float Committee.** The Salinas Rodeo will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year and one of the highlights for this year's Big Week will be the revival of the Colmo del Rodeo Night Lighted parade.

The Salinas Chinese Community had entered a float in the parade for many years and had garnered many prizes and accolades for their efforts. This year, Chung Wah and the Salinas Lodge of the CACA will be partnering in building and entering a float in the parade.

A lot of help is needed for the project, so if you are able to lend a hand, please call either Albert Fong (758-8056) or Wellington Lee (757-3592) to volunteer your services.

**3rd Annual Asian Festival** is to happen this month. Come attend the third annual Asian Festival in Salinas' historic Chinatown area on **April 24, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

The Festival is a special event of the ongoing Chinatown Renewal Project, aimed at bringing the public to the area and celebrating and sharing the culture, contributions, foods, and local history of the Chinese, Filipino, and Japanese communities.

**Festival food.** Freshly cooked foods available at the Salinas Confucius Church at 1 California Street, the Buddhist Temple of Salinas at 14 California Street, and the Filipino Cultural Center at 250 Calle Cebu.

**Festival activities.** Asian Festival 2010 will have cultural demonstrations and exhibits, musical and stage play presentations, and historic photo displays at these venues.

Additional programs are scheduled at the Chinatown Community Garden, Dorothy's Place, @risk Gallery, and CSUMB Community Learning Center, all on Soledad Street; and at Ted Ponton's Glass Shop on East Lake Street.

There'll also be guided tours of the Buddhist Temple grounds, including the historic bell tower and temple altar, and guided walking tours of the Soledad Street Chinatown, including an inside look at the Bing Kong Tong meeting hall

**Opening ceremonies** will be held from 11 to 11:30 a.m. on a lot adjacent to the old Republic Café, 37 Soledad Street, which is the site of the proposed Salinas Chinatown Cultural Experience (cultural center and museum).

Welcome speeches from the Mayor of Salinas and the Salinas Downtown Community Board Co-Chair and entertainment from the three Asian communities will take place under a renovated, lighted-up Chop Suey neon sign.

**Steinbeck Center Chinatown exhibit opening soon!** You've been asked for artifacts for the exhibit. Now it's time to see how they're put together. The six-week run of the exhibit opens to coincide with the Asian Cultural Fair, so we can start viewing the exhibit on April 24<sup>th</sup>!

**Census 2010 update:** Did you fill out and return your census questionnaire from the United States Bureau of the Census? You should have received it and sent it back by now.

There are only 10 questions to be answered and none of the information disclosed can be held against you in any way. It is important that you and your entire household be counted, for it is from the census population count that the Federal Government decides upon distribution of monies to the local communities.

**Adopt-a-Bed Garden Program.** Do you like to garden and grow your own vegetables for yourself, family and friends? If you do, then you should

look into the Adopt-a-Bed program at the Chinatown Community garden located on the corner of Lake and Soledad streets in Salinas' Chinatown.

When you sign up and agree to the Guidelines and Rules of the Garden, you will receive, *absolutely free*: one 4' x 6' raised planter bed in which to grow your produce, organic soil and compost for your bed, and use of water and tools to care for your bed.

In addition, you'll get advice and assistance from the Garden Coordinator and Assistant Leader on how to grow produce and maintain your bed as well as receiving a variety of seeds to choose from. Of course, if you want to grow specialty vegetables, such as Chinese vegetables, you can supply your own seeds.

Your responsibilities will include reading, agreeing to, signing and following the Garden Guidelines and Rules, maintaining your bed on a regular basis for six months (visiting your bed at least once a week to care for it) and volunteering only two hours a month to care for the overall Garden space.

The two hours per month of volunteer work will be for each bed that you utilize. For further information, contact Jerry Cheang at 424-7246 or [pawgoong@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pawgoong@sbcglobal.net).

This can be a fun and worthwhile endeavor for all that get involved.

## NATIONAL NEWS

**C.A.C.A. Mourns Loss of Grand Treasurer Herbert H. Gee.** With great sadness and sincerest sympathies, the

Chinese American Citizens Alliance mourns the sudden loss of fraternal brother and national Grand Treasurer, Herbert H. Gee.

As his "home" organization where he was a third generation member for 36 years, the Alliance expresses our deepest condolences to Herb's loving wife of over 47 years, Virginia, devoted son and daughter-in-law, Christopher and Clarice, grandsons Christian and Cedric and numerous other family members, including those special nieces and nephews who called him "Uncle Bing" and "Uncle Herb."

His most profound contributions were made serving the Chinese American Citizens Alliance where for over 36 years, he served at most every leadership position as a member and Past President of the San Francisco Lodge before proceeding to the national Grand Lodge where he served as Grand Treasurer for over 13 years.

One way to honor his memory is to contribute to the "Herbert H. Gee Civic Leadership Internship", c/o Chinese American Citizens Alliance---National Community Involvement Fund, 1044 Stockton St., San Francisco, CA 94108.

E-readers can see the full news release on the attached .pdf file.

**Chicago Lodge chartered.** Day long festivities marked the initiation of the Alliance's newest lodge at its quarters in the On Leong Building in Chicago's Wentworth St. Chinatown on Sunday, March 14, 2010.

A crowd of nearly 300 people included Grand Lodge officers, Chicago and Chicago Chinatown dignitaries, other guests, and the 51 full and 3 associate members of the new lodge and their families. The new lodge is headed by President Herman Wong and Vice President Ivy P. Lam. More details and pictures are on the attached .pdf news release.

## Newsletter Submissions

Send all your reports, notices, and other submissions to the newsletter to me to both work and personal e-mail addresses. I check my work e-mail more often than my personal e-mail, but I can't check it away from work.

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[singingconductor@yahoo.com](mailto:singingconductor@yahoo.com)

### *Deadlines*

Please submit your contributions ten days before each monthly meeting. That is, Friday a week before, so it's either the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month or the last Friday of the previous month. This allows several days for editing, a day or so for printing and folding and posting by Thursday for snail mail delivery NLT Saturday before the Monday meeting.

**Next Deadline: April 30, 2010**