

IMAGE

FALL/WINTER 2008



OCA | EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS



Recapping the
**Successful 35th
Anniversary
and National
Convention**

OCA Reacts
to Poor Sportsmanship
at **Summer
Olympics**

**APIA U:
Leadership
101**

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Current and Former Leaders Unite! Pioneer Award Recipient: OCA Founder Kung-Lee (KL) Wang with OCA President Ginny Gong, Past President Claudine Cheng, and Executive Director Michael Lin at the 2008 National Convention.

Photo courtesy of Corky Lee

Our Mission

OCA is a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

To fulfill its mission, OCA has established the following goals:

- + To advocate for social justice, equal opportunity and fair treatment;
- + To promote civic participation, education, and leadership;
- + To advance coalitions and community building; and
- + To foster cultural heritage.

Founded in 1973 as the Organization of Chinese Americans, OCA aims to embrace the hopes and aspirations of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

OCA is engaged in organizing its over 80 chapters and affiliates across the nation to develop both leadership and community involvement. OCA chapters and our organizational and college affiliates are establishing strong local programs in all parts of the country.

OCA's base in Washington, D.C. gives the national office an effective vantage point for monitoring legislation and policy issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans. In addition, OCA is able to build national support and to work in coalition with other national groups around issues affecting Asian Pacific Americans.

OCA takes no collective position on the politics of any foreign country, but instead focuses on the welfare and civil rights of Asian Pacific Americans in the United States.

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Message from the President

Ginny Gong | OCA National President

This is an exciting time for OCA – a re-energized organization filled with renewed commitment with a beautiful home in the heart of the nation’s capital.

For me, it has been both challenging and rewarding—a roller coaster journey of many “firsts.” After 27 years as an OCA member, four terms as National President and 12 years on the Executive Council and 25 conventions later, I am writing my last message in IMAGE as OCA National President to express my heartfelt appreciation for the honor of serving this remarkably resilient organization. Being National President has been referred to as a “thankless job” and there are times when, quite honestly, one might have that feeling. But the many ways in which people have expressed their appreciation has been the reward. It has been heartwarming to meet members from coast to coast committed to OCA’s mission and encouraging to witness the pledges of support from Asian Pacific Americans of all ages, particularly in the establishment of the OCA National Center.

I will remember 2005-2008 as four amazing years. With so many activities and programs continuously occurring, it has been very difficult to pause and reflect on the significance of all that has happened. As an organization, we have grown in many ways. Every day seems to bring new opportunities. In 2005, the EC focused on a Strategic Plan that clarified its mission and goal, and identified organizational capacity, fundraising, membership and outreach and advocacy and programming priorities.

We identified succession planning (at both the board and staff levels) as critical to the sustainability of our organization and moved forward with great determination to ensure that we have the leadership necessary to move OCA forward. We have been successful in this regard, and wish to thank Michael Lin, who not only served as our Executive Director for the last two years, but was successful in his commitment to the development of staff leadership.

As a membership based organization, programming and membership outreach have always been paramount concerns. In 2005, OCA adopted a branding strategy that embraced a more inclusive Pan-Asian agenda and would better reflect OCA’s programming and practice over the years. OCA National would take the lead in shifting to a more Pan-Asian message with chapters following suit in subsequent years.

This broader, more diversified approach has been reflected in membership on the Executive Council and the National Board.

As part of enhanced communication, attention was focused on creating a more professional image in written publications. A totally revamped website, a newly created E-zine newsletter, and a reformatted Image magazine are now all reflective of an established national organization. As a community facilitator, we’ve been successful in building coalitions and establishing new partnerships with other organizations such as the Families of Children in China, DiversityInc, University of Maryland Asian American Studies Program and other partners in academia.

Fundraising was one goal that was elevated in significance in recent years. A Development Committee was created to oversee the financial health of the organization and manage the existing Endowment Fund. The success of this priority was reflected in the high revenue producing convention and the most profitable end-of-the-year fundraising campaign in the history of OCA.

And of course, the establishment of the OCA National Center...what an amazing accomplishment that has been, and will be, for years to come. Identifying the site in December of 2005, purchasing it in September of 2006, and moving in January of 2007. This is a dream of all non-profits. To own such a prestigious home in Washington D.C. was beyond anyone’s dream, but now it is a reality for all of us. Our vision for this Center is that it would serve as a showcase for all Asian Pacific American community, a center where APA organizations would share resources and collaborate more effectively on common issues.

OCA has come a long way from its simple beginnings to what it is today, a credible voice for the issues near and dear to the Asian American community. We are well positioned to accomplish great things. With staffing in place and a soon to be elected Executive Council, there is no limit as to where OCA will be in years to come. As for me: “Once an OCA member, always an OCA member.” ■



Message from the Executive Director

Michael C. Lin | OCA Executive Director

For 35 years since its inception, OCA has always been one of the leading organizations in the Asian Pacific American community. It has become more and more apparent that one of the strengths of OCA is our membership-based national network. Very often our partnership with others, including the corporate, private and public sectors, reflects the appreciation and significance of our more than 80 chapters and college affiliates across the country.

One major task in the coming years is to build chapters' capacity to not only sustain their operations, but grow their membership and programming. We have begun to look for special funding for capacity building at the chapter level to enhance the grassroots leadership development which is so critical to a vibrant organization. Furthermore, we continue to enhance our existing programs to better suit the needs of our chapters.

We've been engaging chapter leaders through monthly nation-wide conference calls devoted to issues of concern to our chapters and provide opportunities at the National Board meetings for chapters

to share their successes and challenges. There is no question that our 51 chapters are the foundation of OCA.

What makes an organization great is its ability to be at the table at the critical moment when important decisions are discussed and made. To ensure that OCA is at the table representing the Asian Pacific American community and other stakeholders, we have embarked on three new initiatives which represent natural extensions of our advocacy and programming.

Recently, OCA became one of the first two Asian Pacific American organizations to participate in an exciting new initiative, ServiceNation, which convened a Presidential Forum and Summit on September 11 and 12, 2008. The mission of ServiceNation is to rekindle the spirit of serving the community on a national scale and to make voluntary service a part of American life and culture. Some years ago, OCA mobilized our chapters across the nation to come together to participate in a day of community service. It's time for OCA to again make a nationwide effort to join others in service to America.

The second initiative relates to OCA's fundamental mission to ensure our rights as Americans. One such right is adequate access to healthcare. Congress and the next Administration must develop an accessible and comprehensive healthcare plan for all Americans. OCA was recently asked to join a national coalition on healthcare to actively engage in the ongoing dialogue and advocacy for the healthcare reform. We will seize this opportunity to add healthcare reform to our advocacy work, which already includes comprehensive immigration reform, hate crime prevention and justice, fair pay, media representations and many other prospective goals.

Recognizing the importance of fully understanding the issues we advocate for, the third initiative involves a public and academic partnership to build our research capacity. ■



Message from the Editor

Mia Youhne | Vice President of Communications

Greetings from Las Vegas!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the newest addition to the OCA Family: our new Communications Manager at the National Center, Sarah Smith. I would like to thank our former Senior Communications Manager and friend, Hope Chu for her hard work and dedication. Hope Chu came to OCA with a vision that she made into a reality and without her, IMAGE magazine would not be where it is today. The IMAGE magazine went through an entire makeover that changed its overall look and feel. I look forward to working with our new Communications Manager, Sarah Smith in continuing to take IMAGE to the next level.

This year, the debut of the OCA e-newsletter hit OCA members and community members across the nation through emails. As promised, the e-newsletter provides members with information on issues affecting the APIA community, updates from the national office, and action alerts that are interesting and helpful. We hope you are enjoying the e-newsletter and we hope you will continue to support and keep up with latest APIA issues and events.

In this issue, we feature our National Convention which was held in Washington, DC, this past July. "Voices for Progress-Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership and Commitment," is exactly what OCA did in the heart of our nation's capital. Let's take a moment to congratulate OCA Greater Washington DC and OCA Northern Virginia for their hard work and success! These two chapters worked countless hours to bring members from across the nation to celebrate this milestone event. In

this convention issue, we share with you photos from many memorable events, workshops, luncheons, dinners, and hope it brings a smile to your face. Please mark your calendars for the next National Convention which will take place from August 6-9, 2009 in San Francisco.

OCA plays an important role in working on behalf of the interests of the APIA community. For OCA, this year's convention was timely. OCA celebrated its 35 years during an election year in our nation's capital. This year is a momentous election year and piggybacking with this year's convention theme, "Voices for Progress," I would like to stress the importance of voting. As we near the presidential elections, remember this: "GET OUT THE VOTE." We need to grow, learn, and succeed and for us to do this we must be heard. Please go out and vote for whom you believe will be a positive role model and who will make a difference for our nation. I know many of our OCA chapters are working hard in getting out the vote and registering voters in their respective communities. I applaud you for your dedication and commitment to be a leader and a voice for progress.

Grow. Lead. Succeed. ■



Message from the Deputy Director

George Wu | OCA National Deputy Director

I attended my very first OCA National Convention in August and I can't believe I've been missing out on this amazing annual gathering of some of the most dynamic Asian Pacific American community leaders. From recognizing the hard work and potential of OCA's summer interns to honoring the legacy of OCA's founder, K.L. Wang, I was blown away by the voices for progress I heard throughout the four-day event. Throughout these pages, you will read about and see pictures of the many wonderful moments OCA members experienced and shared at our Convention. Enjoy!

In the past six months, OCA has engaged in several new issue areas and strengthened our efforts in our core programming. Beginning with a pilot program with OCA-GLA, we launched the OCA/UPS National Mentorship Initiative to provide Asian Pacific American professionals opportunities to learn from and network with established APA executives in a variety of fields. For OCA's first entrée into mentorship programming, we identified and collaborated with the Asian American Professionals Association, whose decade-long mentorship project includes both group and one-on-one mentoring. OCA is in the process of expanding this Initiative to other chapters, so please contact the National Center for more information.

OCA also launched our Internship Alumni Network this year to provide a platform for the nearly 300 former

OCA interns to engage in OCA programming and chapter development. The Internship Program turns 20 years old next year and we look to all the alumni to help us chart the next 20 years of providing Asian Pacific American college students opportunities to serve and lead.

OCA's status as a Census Information Center led to the creation of a unique partnership with the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Maryland in College Park, Md. We generated considerable buzz when we released a preview of our demographic report, *A Portrait of Chinese Americans*, at Convention and we know the release of our final publication in late October will truly enrich everyone's understanding of the Chinese and Asian Pacific American community. I think it is never too early to remind everyone that the 2010 Census is just around the corner and APA participation in this national effort is critical in providing resources to our communities.

Soon after our Convention, OCA took a leading role in monitoring the impact of Olympic media coverage on the Asian Pacific American community and race relations in America. When a photograph of the Spanish Men's Olympic Basketball Team surfaced with each player slanting their eyes in reference to stereotypes of Asians, OCA condemned the act as offensive to the many Asian Pacific American Olympic athletes representing the United States. In addition, OCA pointed out that the

Spanish athletes who play in the NBA should have known better and need to be held responsible for a gesture that their Asian Pacific American fans have been ridiculed and taunted with in the past.

As the nation prepares to elect a new president, OCA has joined with the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans to publish a *Platform for Asian American and Pacific Islanders* and conduct a Presidential Candidate Questionnaire, participated in the historic APA Townhall in California and the ServiceNation Presidential Forum in New York, and partnered with the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund and APIA Vote to register, mobilize, and protect voters. OCA Vote is not only the collective program that these efforts fall under, but a call to action for all of us to perform our civic duties and embrace our democracy.

All of these efforts were made possible by the visionary leadership of our Executive Council and Executive Director and, especially, the tireless work of the OCA staff and our consultants. So please join me in applauding Kelly, Doug, Mingchee, Hope, Pei-Un, Sarah, Iimay, Cindy, Clara and Aryani.

We'll see you out at the polls! ■



New Faces

OCA Welcomes New Communications Manager

Sarah Smith | Communications Manager

SARAH SMITH is thrilled to have the opportunity to take over the position of **Communications Manager** at the National Center. Since beginning in July 2008, Sarah has already been a part of this year's National Convention and the planning of the 2008 OCA National Asian Pacific American Corporate Achievement Awards, and she has found every minute to be a new and exciting experience.

Sarah has an extensive background in communication, most recently she has focused her work in nonprofit, with an emphasis in social justice. She has specialized in public relations and media work for both the Sisters of Mercy, an international community of women religious, located in Silver Spring, MD; and Center For Family Services, a family assistance and service-based organization located in Camden, NJ. She says her heart drew her to both positions because they fight for the underserved and underrepresented. She also realized that people in the nonprofit sector deserved a communications professional who could provide just as much media coverage and marketing materials as a big business. In that time, Sarah strengthened her marketing skills by conceptualizing and implementing newsletters, brochures, advertisements and research groups. Both positions received local and national print and television coverage during her tenure, including USA Today and CNN.

Having always had a fascination with the media, Sarah also worked as print journalist for the multimedia corporation Journal Register Company, covering stories and writing columns throughout the greater Philadelphia region. In her capacity as editor for Life News, a cluster of eight community newspapers, she found an interest in the different cultures that lived in her coverage area.

While in college, Sarah held an internship in governmental relations and briefly worked as a court reporter for the Division of Workers Compensation in Pennsylvania while she was trying to figure out whether or not she should go to law school (a challenge she passed on).

Sarah is excited to hold the Communications Manager position at OCA National Center because it encompasses everything she is passionate about, media, D.C.-related issues, human interests, serving communities and "making things look nice." She holds an MA in English and Publishing from Rosemont College and a BS in Communications Journalism from the University of Tennessee. While in college she spent a semester abroad in France, is still a huge Francophile and loves to travel.



New Faces

OCA Welcomes New Program Associate

Iimay Ho | Program Associate

IIMAY HO joined OCA as a Program Associate in October 2008. She is the daughter of two Chinese immigrants and was born and raised in North Carolina. She graduated last May with highest honors from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a major in Sociology and minors in Chinese and Creative Writing. She was awarded the Howard W. Odum Award for excellence in undergraduate sociological achievement.

While attending UNC-Chapel Hill, she was involved with Model United Nations, Students for the Advancement of Race Relations, served as the coordinator of UNITAS: Cultural Diversity Theme House, was on the steering committee for the 2007 Southeastern Regional Unity Conference and helped bring prominent Asian American activists to the conference, and was a student representative on the Sexuality Studies Advisory Board. During her summers she traveled in Taiwan and studied abroad in Beijing.

In the summer of 2007 she clerked for the Asian American Justice Center (AAJC) where she worked on the comprehensive immigration reform bill. She co-wrote a fact sheet on Asian Americans and family immigration, wrote an op-ed on the same topic, did a vote analysis, and completed an independent research project on gay and lesbian Asian Americans and the immigration system. She continued her project by writing her senior honor thesis on same-sex partner immigration policies in Australia, Israel, and the United States.

After she graduated, she interned for Southerners on New Ground (SONG), a membership-based, Southern regional organization made up of working class, people of color, immigrants, and rural LGBTQ people. She has gained valuable community organizing and fundraising skills from her internship. Her internship with SONG has also shown her the power of a membership-based organization, and she is looking forward to working with and meeting OCA members.

Iimay is excited about working for OCA because of its commitment to empowering Asian Pacific Americans. She feels that she will become a better advocate by working for a group that has such long experience with organizing the APA community. She is glad to be helping out with strong youth and college programs that are developing the next generation of APA leaders. She is also excited about helping to manage OCA's new entrepreneurship program. Iimay hopes to be involved with OCA's coalition building activities and to help create relationships with people of color, immigrant, and LGBTQ organizations. Finally, she is looking forward to moving to D.C. and becoming a member of the OCA family.

Art Meets Activism: Hate Crimes Prevention Art Project

Monna Wong | OCA-New York

Funded by Allstate Foundation in partnership with OCA-National and The New York Community Trust, the Hate Crimes Prevention Project was a summer-long collaboration between the Organization of Chinese Americans, New York Chapter (OCA-NY), the Ana Luisa Garcia Youth Center, Chinatown Youth Initiative (CYI), South Asian Youth Action! (SAYA!), and the United Puerto Rican Organization of Sunset Park (UPROSE). Three high school students were selected from each youth group to form the core participants of the project. Each youth group had a coordinator with Monna Wong as OCA-NY's summer intern coordinating the project. This was an opportunity for youth to learn how to use and view art as an activism tool to prevent hate crimes and other social injustices, as well as a way to promote cross-cultural awareness, open dialogue, and coalition building.

The kick-off event occurred on May 28, 2008 with a press conference introducing the project. The core interns then underwent three separate trainings including a course on hate crimes and significant hate crime incidents in history, a police/community relations discussion, and a training on the use



of art as an activism tool. The interns then selected the two themes for the art contest: "Popping the Bubble," pointing at the connection between the issue of ignorance and hate crimes, and "What Will Become of Us..." which challenged the artist to imagine a future if hate crimes were to persist and then identifying ways to prevent them.

28 art submissions were received from students representing 15 different schools throughout the five boroughs of New York City. The judging criteria were as follows: creativity, strength of message, and relevance to the themes. After an

intense judging process, the interns finally chose their winners.

The culmination of the project came on August 7, 2008 for the Hate Crimes Prevention Art Exhibit at Brooklyn Borough Hall. The exhibit featured speakers, including Councilmember John Liu, Brooklyn Borough President's community liaison, Alice Wong, Allstate Representative, Steven Schneider, and performers Elijah Kuan Wong and Maya Azucena. With a turnout of more than 175 people, great food, and refreshing performances, the exhibit was a great success. ■

2008 Interns

BENJAMIN ALISUAG is a rising senior at the University of Pennsylvania. He is majoring in English with a concentration in Creative Writing and minoring in Asian American Studies. He is currently the chair of the Asian Pacific Student Coalition, which serves as the main liaison group for Penn's Asian students and the rest of the university. He is also president of Penn's Asian senior honor society, Oracle. A few other of his involvements include the Penn Philippine Association, facilitating the Asian Pacific American Leadership Initiative and organizing Penn's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

ANNIE AN will be a Junior at University of Washington-Seattle in the upcoming fall. She was born in China and came to America when she was ten. She lived in Alabama for four years before moving to Washington D.C. She is the VP External for National Sigma Psi Zeta Sorority Inc. and a member of CSA (Chinese Student Association). She considers herself enthusiastic, funny and she loves to EAT!

KACY CHENG is from Fort Washington, Maryland, but currently living in Ashburn, Virginia. She is a senior at Syracuse University with a major in Policy Studies and a minor in Strategic Management, and expects to graduate in May 2009. On the SU campus, Kacy is involved in a student organization called Asian Students in America (A.S.I.A.) and is currently serving as the Awareness Campaign Chairperson for the Denny's 10 Year Remembrance Committee to fight hate crimes against minorities.

NITT CHUENPRATEEP, a native of San Jose, California, is currently a third-year student at Claremont McKenna College majoring in Government and International Relations with a minor in Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights Studies. At the Claremont Colleges, Nitt served as President of the Claremont Colleges chapter of Circle K International, a community service organization. Aside from being a

student, Nitt also works in graphic design, creating web sites and publications for various organizations. He also enjoys photography, travel, and listening to bay music.

CHANTAL COUDOUX grew up in Washington D.C. and is a junior at Scripps College in Claremont, California. She is studying politics and concentrating on critical race theory. She served as the sophomore head of both the Asian American Student Union, and the Asian American Sponsor Program this past year. Over the years, she has worked extensively with Asian American LEAD, a community organization serving youth of color in the Washington D.C. area.

KUMUDHA KUMARACHANDRAN is a rising senior at the University of Maryland, College Park. She is a Government and Politics major, and intended Asian American Studies minor. She is the Vice President of Advocacy for the Asian American Student Union on campus, and a member of Kappa Phi Gamma Sorority, Inc. Last summer she interned at SAALT (South Asian Americans Leading Together) and is excited about interning at the OCA National office this summer.

EMMA KUROSE is a rising senior and History major at Yale University. She has participated in a number of organizations, including the Japanese American Student Union, the Political Action and Education Committee of the Asian American Students Alliance, the step team, and has served as an intramural secretary for her residential college. Last year, she served as a co-president of InSight, the Yale chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF). Emma is looking forward to serving as a Freshman Counselor ("Froco") for the incoming class of 2012. Some of her favorite pastimes included traveling, eating family style, and playing sports.

JAMESON LAM is from the Bay Area - Sunnyvale, CA to be exact. He just graduated from Pomona College with a major in Public Policy

Analysis/Biology and a minor in Asian American Studies. He has a strong interest in health and science, and wrote his senior thesis on the public health issue of hepatitis B in Asian Americans and a proposed National Hepatitis B Act introduced in Congress. He is also an avid sports fan, especially soccer. This summer he is interning at the APIA Health Forum.

ELLEN LE spent the first 18 years of her life in Bedford, MA, but got sick of scraping snow off her windshield and blowing on her hands so she went to Pomona College in sunny Claremont, CA, where she is a rising junior. She is a member of the student-run Asian American Mentor Program, and she is the Pomona College at-large student representative on the Claremont Colleges' Asian American Advisory Board, directing funding for community-wide APA activities and programming.

STEVEN LIANG is a rising junior at Pitzer College majoring in Asian American Studies. The oldest child of working-class immigrant parents, his short films exploring issues of class and identity have screened in film festivals nationally. Most recently, he opened for Academy Award nominated director, Christine Choy's new feature, "Long Story Short" as part of the Los Angeles API Film Festival. He enjoys smiling and you will see him doing that a lot. He also enjoys the company of people who he can have open, challenging conversations with. His fear is giving into capitalism-driven materialism. On his free time he exercises and does art. He is having a blast interning at the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

RACHEL LIN is a rising junior attending the University of Florida and majoring in Anthropology with a minor in Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits. She has been actively involved in the Asian American Student Union (AASU) on her campus and is the current director of their Asian-American Awareness Month. She also served as the 2007



programming chair for the Southeast Regional Conference of Asian American Leaders (SERCAAL) and was an ambassador of the UF Institute of Hispanic/Latino Cultures. She enjoys collecting children's literature and taking pictures of food.

LAWRENCE LIU was born and raised in New York City and currently attends the University of Maryland, College Park. He is majoring in Government and Politics and minoring in both Chinese and Asian American Studies. He served on the Asian American Student Union's executive board as the Yuri Kochiyama chair conducting leadership workshops for high school students. Working in the local government sector has helped build his experience towards a career of public policy and political science. He is extremely excited to be working in the nation's capital in close proximity with current and future leaders of the world. Along with politics, he is an avid enthusiast of hip-hop and martial arts.

CLARA NG-QUINN is an undergraduate student at Cornell University, majoring in English and minoring in Asian American Studies and Inequality Studies. Clara was born in Menlo Park, California, and misses the Bay Area every day. She was the Programming Chair of the East Coast Asian American Student Union (ECAASU) 2008 conference, and remained all too active in the Asian and Asian American advocacy community at Cornell afterward. She

enjoys playing piano and tinkering around on the ukulele, as well as plotting to write the world's greatest novel.

CARLOS ORONCE is a rising Fourth Year at the University of Virginia with a major in biochemistry and a minor in Asian Pacific American Studies. Currently, he serves as Co-Chair of the Minority Rights Coalition at UVA and aspires to be a physician-health care policymaker one day. His interests include development and globalization, international health care, health disparities, American race relations, and hip hop. On the side, Carlos enjoys spending Sunday afternoons (when time's available) smoking barbecue ribs for several hours.

VIRAJ PATEL will be a senior this fall at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. She is currently working on completing her B.A. in English, and is actively involved with her school's Indian Student Association and Asian Pacific American Coalition.

TRINA TRAN is from Roanoke, a small city located in southern Virginia. Currently, she is a 3rd-year at the University of Virginia, double majoring in East Asian Languages and Political Philosophy with a minor in Psychology. She participates in various organizations on campus, including the Vietnamese Student Association and volunteering as a Vietnamese/Chinese translator for

the International Rescue Committee. She hopes to attend law school after college with a focus on criminal, constitutional, or family law.

MARIA LOVELY UYAMAM, a rising junior at Reed College in Portland, is currently pursuing a major in Political Science with an emphasis on International Relations. She is in the process of learning Mandarin Chinese and is preparing to write a thesis on nuclear deterrence and arms control. She is mostly preoccupied with academics and is usually found clutching caffeine in one hand, but she still finds the time to help Reed's Multicultural Affairs department and entertain prospective students visiting campus. She originally hails from Los Angeles, CA where she spends time volunteering for nonprofit organizations and community centers dedicated to APA empowerment and creative writing for youth. She someday hopes to break into the political field and pursue a career in foreign affairs.

JEANY ZHANG is a rising sophomore at the University of Michigan. She served as marketing co-chair of APIA Heritage Month Committee. She was a member of APA101, a mentoring program to introduce students into the APIA advocacy community at the University and a site coordinator of Weekly Correspondence Assisted Recovery. She enjoys meeting new people, traveling, and making her own music.

OCA National Center Updates

Douglas Lee and Pei-Un Yee

APIA U: Leadership 101 is now in its tenth year of providing the building blocks of leadership and activism across the country. OCA and its chapters look forward to working with all of the host schools in the coming school year as we travel across the country and train the future leaders of tomorrow. We will be announcing the host sites soon! The APIA U: Leadership 101 program is generously supported by State Farm®. An article devoted to the tenth anniversary of APIA U is in this edition of IMAGE.

The **OCA Internship Program** is coming off a successful summer that placed 18 interns at different organizations ranging from government agencies, non-profit organizations and congressional offices. The interns worked on a variety of projects, including toolkits, fact sheets and were an incredible resource to the National Center during the Convention in Washington, D.C. OCA is actively seeking interns for its fall, winter, and spring internships, so please help spread this unique opportunity to your contacts.

Engaging college students on the elections in November and providing technical support for campus programming are just two of the goals for the **College Affiliate Program (CAP)**. Through a generous grant by Wal-Mart, OCA will be able to provide supplemental financial support for those organizations that wish to improve their campus through creative programs and ideas. CAP will be available to student organizations across the country that adhere

strongly to OCA's mission statement and we will also be selecting student representatives to be voices on campus for OCA.

The **OCA Scholarship** program is also proud to award scholarships to 34 exceptional APA high school students to help them achieve their dreams in higher education.



This year's winners of the OCA

OCA – AXA Achievement Scholarship Winners

- Alison Chandler** University of California- Los Angeles
- Anissa Chen** University of California- Los Angeles
- Paul Choi** Emory University
- James Lee** University of Georgia
- Stanley Moy** University of Oregon
- Connie Park** University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign
- EunHye Park** Ohio State University
- Sandra Quach** University of Georgia
- Fong Tran** University of California- San Diego
- Phi Vu** Oregon State University

OCA – Verizon Scholarship Winners

- To-My Dinh** University of Georgia
- Nancy Lam** University of California- Berkeley
- Kyle Limbo** University of California-Berkeley
- Xiao Ling** New York University
- Jiahui Liu** University of Georgia
- Mo Ting (Jacqueline) Ng** ... New York University
- Kevin Salinas** University of California-Los Angeles

Scholarships are:

OCA – Verizon Scholarship Winners *continued*

Justin Tung	University of California- Berkeley
Cindy Vu	University of Kansas
David Wang	University of Texas at Austin
Michael Wu	University of California-Berkeley
Elaine Wu	Pace University

OCA – UPS Gold Mountain Scholarship Winners

Ryan Mariano	University of California, Riverside
Seyha Lanh	Penn State University
Minh-Tam Le	University of Florida
Dorothy Her	University of Wisconsin, Lacrosse
Kayla Thompson	University of Washington
Sandy Kuoch	University of California, San Diego
Nichole Nguyen	University of California, Irvine
Dat Vuu	Temple University
Christina Lee	Villanova University
Thuong Le	University of Georgia
Rishi Rawat	University of California, Berkely
Anne Tsay	New York University

Hate Crimes Education Program

OCA's Hate Crime Education Program strives to prepare communities for hate crimes and bias incidents to enable them to respond quickly and effectively. The program educates people to speak up against bigotry and hatred by working with local police officials and advocating policies regarding hate crimes and bias incidents.

The Allstate Foundation works in conjunction with OCA in sponsoring a series of workshops that are carried out in association with OCA's chapters and affiliates nationwide. Every year, host chapters have created new and innovative ways to bring awareness to the issue of hate crimes.

As this year comes to a close, OCA strongly encourages all our chapters to consider applying for next year's workshop grants. The continual efforts of all our communities working together is the greatest step towards preventing hate crimes and bias incidents.

State Farm® JACL/OCA Leadership Conference

The annual JACL/OCA Leadership Conference is a four-day conference designed to introduce emerging OCA and JACL (Japanese American Citizens League) leaders to the political process by having them meet with members of Congress, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, Administration officials, government agencies, as well as with the OCA's and JACL's colleagues in the Washington, D.C. social justice community.

The conference provides participants an opportunity to learn firsthand about the current public policy issues facing our communities. In the past, it has proven to be extremely helpful to members in realizing how OCA chapters can most effectively work with OCA National Center on issues important to the APA community. The next conference will be held March 6-10, 2009. OCA members are strongly encouraged to apply to participate in the conference.

OCA Vote

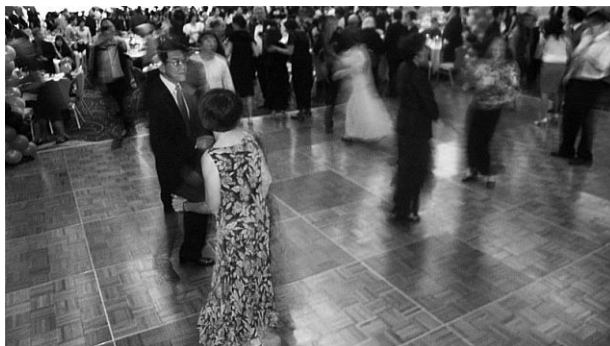
OCA Vote is a collaborative, non-partisan, voter registration and mobilization project run by OCA chapters and members. OCA Vote will encourage infrequent voters to vote, and provide them with information showing them how voting is relevant to their lives. Through the OCA Vote initiative, OCA reaches out to infrequent voters by making contact with voters, providing language accessible voting information, and strategizing in focus groups on how to improve the voting experience for APAs.

OCA Chapters Highlight the 2008 National Convention

For this edition of IMAGE, the theme of our photo contest was the 2008 National Convention, Voices for Progress: Celebrating 35 Years of Leadership and Commitment. We thank everyone for submitting their photos into the contest, and showcasing all the wonderful things that happened while in Washington, DC!

The winning photograph was submitted by the OCA-Denver chapter. The photo was taken at the Smithsonian event.

OCA-Columbus took second place with a photograph taken during the Gala. On the following pages are photos by Corky Lee, featuring our Voices for Progress in action at the Convention.



above: OCA-Denver
left: OCA-Columbus

The Best of 35 Years in One Convention

OCA Celebrates Its 35th Birthday with Convention in DC

George Wu | OCA Deputy Director

Nearly 1,000 OCA members and partners convened in Washington, D.C. from **July 31 to August 3** to mark 35 years of OCA's leadership and commitment to the Asian Pacific American community. The event, hosted by **OCA-DC** and **OCA-NoVa** at the Hilton Washington, was themed **Voices for Progress** and included OCA's signature Gala Awards Banquet.



Photos: Corky Lee



Thursday, July 31

Although OCA chapter leaders, volunteers and staff were in Convention mode long before July 31, the programming started on Thursday morning with the College Leadership Summit, Youth Leadership Summit and the Chapter Advancement Track (CAT). Each summit drew over 100 participants from the Washington metropolitan region and throughout the U.S. In addition, over two dozen chapter leaders participated in the three-day CAT series, which focused on developing individual local leaders and strengthening chapter programming.

The Business Advisory Council (BAC) also met during the Convention and the participants saw the first-ever

presentation on OCA's collaboration with University of Maryland's Asian American Studies Program. The eight-page *Preview of a Portrait of Chinese Americans* shed new light on the nation's largest Asian American community and gave the BAC a sneak peak at the forthcoming **Portrait of Chinese Americans**. BAC leaders also joined other Convention participants at the *Corporate Employee Resource Group Roundtable* later in the Convention.

On Thursday night, OCA-DC and OCA-NoVa officially kicked off the OCA National Convention and 35th Anniversary Celebration with the Welcome Reception. The evening's activities included remarks from host chapter Presidents, **Lily Qi** and **Jack**

Hom, a Lion Dance, Tonic & Gin a capella group and greetings from **Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao**.

Friday, August 1

On Friday, OCA President **Ginny Gong** and Executive Director **Michael Lin** joined former OCA Executive Directors **Daphne Kwok** and **Hayden Lee**, **Japanese American Citizens League National Executive Director Floyd Mori**, and **Asian American Justice Center Executive Director Karen Narasaki** set the celebratory tone of the Convention at the Opening Plenary.

OCA collaborated with the **National Women's History Museum** to launch their cyber exhibition on Chinese American women at the Convention,



Photos: Corky Lee



which included a press conference and a panel discussion entitled: *My Mother's Home: Asian American Women's History and Contemporary Challenges*. Convention participants also attended the following panels: *APA's In the 2008 Elections and Beyond*; *How to Make Your First Million – From Entrepreneur to CEO*; and *Globalization – A Double-Edged Sword for Asian Pacific Americans*.

News Anchor Joie Chen moderated the Friday **Chapter Awards Luncheon**, where OCA recognized the outstanding chapters in the OCA family (winners listed in this Convention section) in an adrenaline pumping ceremony that followed a keynote address by **AARP President Jennie Chin Hansen**. In the evening, Convention guests were

shuttled off to the Smithsonian's **National Museum of the American Indian** for a reception in honor of **Dr. Franklin Odo** and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program. Following the reception, Convention attendees embarked on a moonlit guided tour of Washington, D.C. For many, the most important stop of the night was at **1322 18th Street** – home of the **OCA National Center**.

Saturday, August 2

Throughout the Convention, attendees, including participants in **Seniors Day**, took advantage of the OCA Exhibit Hall and Career Fair to learn about OCA's sponsors, speak to potential employers, browse the Asian Pacific American book fair and

sample everything from cookies to gift certificates. The Exhibit Hall also featured a **Community Health Fair** and several hybrid vehicles on display.

2008 OCA Pioneer Award recipient Arthur Dong jumpstarted an action-packed Saturday schedule with *Breakfast in Hollywood* – an intimate discussion of his career as a filmmaker and his new film *Hollywood Chinese*. Later, Convention goers were treated to a stellar panel discussion on the *State of Asian Pacific America*, which featured **Leadership Conference on Civil Rights President Wade Henderson**, **American Jewish Committee's Center for American Pluralism Director Ann Schaffer**, **Law Professor and Author Frank Wu**, **Mexican American**



Legal Defense and Education Fund Executive Director John Trasvina, and moderator **Yu-Yee Wu**.

At the **Youth Recognition Luncheon** on Saturday, moderated by OCA Deputy Director **George Wu**, **Academy Award Winning Filmmaker Jessica Yu** spoke about her newest film *Ping Pong Playa* and OCA honored the talented summer interns that helped make Convention possible. Saturday's programming also included *Grassroots Organizing in the 2008 Elections*, *Author's Forum*, *OCA Internship Alumni Summit* and *Mentorship Initiative Kick-Off*, and *Raising Children in a Multicultural Family*.

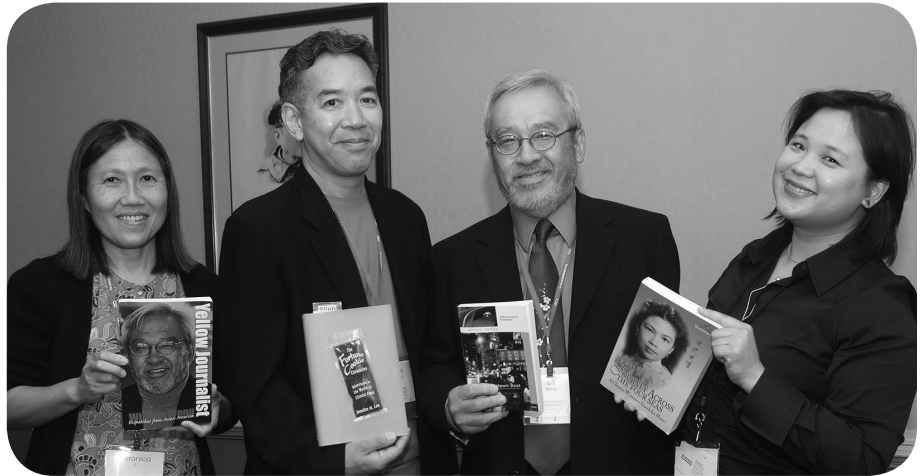
For most Convention attendees, Saturday night's **Gala Awards Banquet**, moderated by **News Anchors Cynthia Gouw** and **David Louie** wrapped up a truly remarkable celebration with honors going to OCA's **Gold Mountain Scholarship** recipients, **Unsung Heroes** and Pioneer Award winners **Dong**, **Actress Nancy Kwan**, **Tae Kwon Do Grand Master Jhoon Rhee**, and OCA founder **K.L. Wang**. OCA also honored **State Farm** with its Corporate Partner of the Year Award.

Sunday, August 3

For OCA **National Board** members and staff, Convention did not end with the Gala Awards Banquet. OCA

held a National Board Meeting on Sunday morning before heading over to National Center for a **Donor Appreciation Luncheon**. At the Sunday luncheon, over 200 members of the OCA family gathered together to unveil the naming plaques of the donors and supporters that made the OCA National Center possible. Guests were treated to tours of the National Center, including the newly renovated backyard patio.

OCA has been a Voice for Progress for 35 years and the Convention provided the perfect platform to ensure that new **Voices for Progress** will continue to emerge from OCA for many, many more years. ■



Photos: Corky Lee



Sacramento Wins OCA 2008 Chapter of the Year

Every year, guests to the OCA National Convention anticipate finding out who will receive Chapter Excellence Awards at the Chapter Awards Luncheon. This year was no exception, with finalists spanning from Long Island to Seattle, and all in between. The 2008 Winner of the Chapter of the Year was presented to the Sacramento Chapter.

Chapter Excellence Award for Membership
OCA San Mateo

Chapter Excellence Award for Communications
OCA Central Illinois

Chapter Excellence Award for Projects and Programs
OCA Greater Seattle

Chapter Excellence Award for Community Involvement
OCA South Florida

Chapter Excellence Award for Economic Development
OCA-Westchester/Hudson Valley

Third Place Chapter of the Year
OCA-New York, OCA-Central Illinois and OCA-Long Island

Second Place Chapter of the Year
OCA-Westchester/Hudson Valley, OCA-Greater Houston

Special Achievement Chapter of the Year
OCA-New Jersey and OCA-Hawaii

Chapter of the Year
OCA Sacramento

OCA/GM Unsung Heroes Awardees

The 2007-2008 Unsung Heroes Awardees are as follows:

Ken and Maricel B. Avelino
(OCA-Greater Sacramento)

Ann and Howard Chan
(OCA-Long Island)

Jerry S.Y. Cheng
(OCA- New York)

Phoenix Y. Cheng
(OCA-Pittsburgh)

Wallace S.J. Ching
(OCA-Hawaii)

Mike Fong
(OCA-Greater Los Angeles)

Julie Hwang
(OCA- Dallas/Fort Worth)

David Lai Len
(OCA-New Jersey)

Wade W. Loo
(OCA-San Mateo)

Xiaochun Luo
(OCA-Westchester/Hudson Valley)

State Farm: 2008 Corporate Partner Winner Offers Perspective on National Convention

Leslie Moe-Kaiser | State Farm®

OCA's impressive national convention had something for everyone, from youth to senior citizens. In a celebratory atmosphere, State Farm® associates were delighted to share in the camaraderie. We reconnected with chapter members from around the country and congratulated many at the Chapter Awards Luncheon. Most important, we were able to speak with attendees and listen to their concerns about auto safety, insurance and financial planning.

The OCA family sure knows how to make you feel special. We were honored to receive the 2008 Partner of the Year award at the Gala. Ken Lam, Vice President Heartland Zone, accepted on behalf of State Farm.

The award goes to all our associates who coordinate and participate in OCA events around the country. Grassroots participation is important to us. We live our philosophy, "Like a Good Neighbor, State Farm is there." Our Asian American employees are actively engaged in local community events from Washington and California to Illinois, Georgia, Texas, Florida, and Washington, DC.

The festive decorations and setting for the Gala made the occasion even more memorable. The band—absolutely fabulous! Besides having a wonderful time, our associates and guests were most impressed with the warmth and congeniality of gala attendees. Rubbing elbows that evening with the founders and visionaries was a treat. We owe so much to K.L Wang, and Michael Lin and Ginny Gong who continue as standard bearers for the APIA community.

We couldn't have asked for a better turnout for the "How to Make Your First Million" session, a workshop featuring



Leslie Moe-Kaiser Speaks at 2008 Convention

successful entrepreneurs from AsianWeek and Systems Applications, Inc. and the Women's Business Center-Northern Virginia. The latter was the first pilot site for the Entrepreneur Empowerment Training program which provides courses for those who wish to start their own businesses or enhance their small business. We were overwhelmed with the interest and plan to continue the program. Thank you, OCA, for being such an encouraging partner in this project.

"It is our pleasure to work with APIAs around the country to build safer, stronger and better-educated communities," said Leslie Moe-Kaiser, Corporate Relations Manager.

State Farm is honored to be a part of the OCA world. We are privileged to be associated with a dynamic organization that represents the aspirations of the APIA community. We wish continued successes and time to enjoy your many accomplishments. ■

Congratulations to State Farm for receiving this year's Corporate Partner Award in recognition of their support and commitment to OCA and to the Asian Pacific American community. In 2002, State Farm Insurance was the second recipient of this prestigious award. Over the years, State Farm has continually demonstrated its commitment to diversity and to OCA's mission.

APIA U Leadership 101 Marks Ten Year Anniversary

Douglas Lee | OCA Senior Program Manager

For 10 years, APIA U: Leadership 101 has had a strong influence on Asian Pacific American (APA) college student activism on campuses throughout the country. The training provides leadership skills development, activities to explore issues of identity and civic engagement within the APA community. OCA has hosted APIA U at over 50 different colleges and universities from coast to coast and developed over 5000 student leaders in the process.

With generous support from State Farm from the very beginning of APIA U, OCA has been able to bring this training to at least 11 different campuses across the country each year at no cost to the students. Through this unique partnership, OCA and State Farm also provides additional training on managing money and securing your first job.

“State Farm is impressed with the college leaders who have participated in APIA U: Leadership 101 over the past 10 years. Their commitment to the community is matched only by their enthusiasm and energy,” said Leslie Moe-Kaiser, State Farm’s APA Community Liaison.

With insight from working with college students through OCA’s longstanding internship programming, APIA U developed from the needs of many interns who came to OCA from campuses where leadership development hardly took into account the specific needs and experiences of APA students. Seeing an opportunity to provide a much-needed resource for APA college students, OCA staff gathered the expertise of college student affairs personnel, grassroots activists, and other community leaders to come up with a framework for APIA U.

With the help of student affairs personnel from the University of Maryland, OCA combined UCLA’s Higher Education Research Institute’s Social Change Model of Leadership Development with the staffs experience in working within the APA community to make an one and a half day leadership training.

Connie Tingson-Gatuz, a facilitator for APIA U for eight years said that the training “has evolved over the last few years to respond to the ever-changing needs of APA student leaders



across the country. This unique leadership training provides opportunities to explore identity development, share best practices, and engage in community partnering.”

With help from Connie and other experienced facilitators, APIA U has numerous success stories on campuses across the country. In 2007, APIA U arrived at Syracuse University to help students remember an attack on APA students at a local Denny’s restaurant. The training renewed student activism on campus to hold the school and local community accountable for injustices that occur. Other proud moments include student led efforts to increase funding for APA and minority students from \$0 to \$14,000, resource center openings, and the establishment of Asian American Studies.

In 2007, OCA updated the curriculum for the leadership training to include the Critical APIA Leadership Framework (CALF), a model that integrates components from the Social Change Model for Leadership Development, research on the “millennial generation” of students, and the experiences of the APA community. The CALF model focuses on developing

core competencies that empower participants to develop their identity, build leadership skills and advocate for their community.

OCA Senior Program Manager, Douglas Lee, who attended an APIA U training at George Mason University during his first year of college, said, "APIA U sparked my interest in APA issues and helped me to explore my identity and potential as an Asian Pacific American. I became more involved on campus and began my long rewarding journey with OCA." ■



JACL Celebrates 20 Years of Civil Liberties

Debee Yamamoto | JACL

This year, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is commemorating the 20th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. The Civil Liberties Act of 1988 granted reparations in the form of a formal apology from the federal government and a monetary sum of \$20,000 to Japanese Americans who had been interned during WWII. The signing of this legislation into law was a result of hard work and a desire to right a wrong that stained the history of this proud nation.

In 1942, President Roosevelt exercised his executive power as Commander-in-Chief and issued Executive Order 9066 which authorized the gathering and holding of ethnic groups in internment camps. Thinly veiled discrimination, those with “Foreign Enemy Ancestry” were targeted, namely Japanese Americans. This order led to 120,000 individuals of Japanese descent to be forcibly removed from their homes and placed in various internment camps throughout the United States. Kept behind barbed wire and machine gun towers, Japanese Americans were treated as a menace and high risk terrorist and espionage threat simply because of their ethnicity. Over 60 percent of internees were American-born with the rest being first generation Japanese immigrants.

Life as an internee was not easy. The housing options available were not glamorous: only flimsy barracks. Most internment camps were situated in the desert so summer temperatures were in the 100s and the winters were as cold as 30 degrees below zero. The food portions doled out were meager. But life went on and many internees did what they could to make the best of what they were given. After the war,

the camps were closed and Japanese Americans were expected to return home and restart their lives as if nothing happened.

There was not one recorded incident of espionage by an American of Japanese descent during the war.

While there were those who justified the actions of the United States to its own people with arguments of unique circumstances related to war, there were many who were unable to accept that. It’s difficult to let such an injustice

This belief that basic civil rights is a permanent part of American life was the driving force to seek justice for those 120,000 internees.

go uncorrected. It is indeed possible to create a secure nation and engage appropriately in wartime situations without denying the rights granted under the Constitution. This belief that basic civil rights is a permanent part of

American life was the driving force to seek justice for those 120,000 internees. Executive Order 9066 was finally rescinded in 1976 and the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) was created in 1980 to conduct an official governmental study of Executive Order 9066, related wartime orders and their impact on Japanese Americans in the West. Three years later, the CWRIC concluding that the incarceration of Japanese Americans had not been justified by military necessity. Rather, the report determined that the decision to incarcerate was based on “race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership.”

On August 10, 1988, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 was signed into law and in 1990, surviving internees began to receive individual redress payments and a letter of apology.

On September 25, 2008, the JACL is hosting an awards gala in Washington, DC honoring the “Champions of Redress.” The JACL is honoring those who fought for redress from the various positions as legislators, civil rights organizations, community organizers and grass roots advocates. In the fight for Redress, every contribution was significant in ensuring that justice was realized for those who endured such hardship during WWII because of their ethnicity. ■

OCA Rebukes LPGA's Decision to Require English

Players are being asked to speak proficient English or risk suspension

Sarah Smith | OCA Communications Manager

When news broke that the Ladies Professional Golf Association's (LPGA) had issued a statement in August affirming that by 2009 they would require all players to pass an English language proficiency exam or receive suspension, OCA members immediately began criticizing this decision.

OCA immediately issued a statement to express their dismay in this decision and the national press picked up the following quotes from OCA President Ginny Gong and Executive Director Michael Lin.

"One does not need to speak English in order to play professional sports in this country," said Ginny. "We play sports to unify groups, not to divide. This would suggest that someone like Lance Armstrong needs to be proficient in French in order to participate in the Tour de France."

"It is outrageous that the LPGA would consider a decision that prohibits certain players from the chance to compete knowing all the struggles women have gone through in order to be recognized as equals in the sport," said Michael.

The LPGA proposed a policy which requires all participating golf players with at least two years seniority to be proficient in English starting in 2009. Players from countries outside of the United States have been leading tournaments in recent years, with golfers from Mexico, Korea and Taiwan winning the last five major championships. OCA and its colleagues were concerned that, while speaking English to the US press and sponsors is certainly useful for the LPGA, discrimination and intolerance lie at the root of this proposal.

In September, OCA learned that its efforts paid off and LPGA Tour Commissioner Carolyn Bivens said: "After hearing the concerns, we believe there are other ways to achieve our shared objective of supporting and enhancing the business opportunities for every tour player. We have decided to rescind those penalty provisions."

Bivens also said that she would have a revised plan by the end of the year that would not include suspensions, although fining non-English speakers remains an option. Hoping to provide additional insight into the concerns of the Asian Pacific American community, OCA and several of its Asian Pacific American colleagues met with the leadership of the LPGA to reinforce the problems the National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA) had with any penalty for not speaking English.

OCA and NCAPA continues to work with the LPGA and its players to improve their player development and outreach programs. ■

OCA and its colleagues were concerned that, while speaking English to the US press and sponsors is certainly useful for the LPGA, discrimination and intolerance lie at the root of this proposal.

Chinese American Veterans Visit OCA During WWII Combined Reunion

Michelle Bar | OCA National Center Intern

On September 19, 2008, OCA hosted a reception to honor Chinese Americans who fought in World War II. This reception was part of the Chinese American WWII Combined Reunion that included three days of programming in the Washington, DC-area. There were a range of veterans, accompanied by family members that took part in this festivity. They all came from different chapters of OCA all over the United States from California to New York. Many of the Chinese veterans were drafted right out of high school during a time where when their families were not able to attain property or a job due to discrimination in the U.S.

Many of the Chinese veterans were drafted right out of high school during a time where when their families were not able to attain property or a job due to discrimination in the U.S.

The veterans were either part of the 14th Air Service Group or the 987th Signal Company. The 14th Air Service Group was formed due to a special request from General Claire Chennault and General Stilwell. They wanted a group of Chinese American soldiers who spoke Chinese and English fluently to help the American Armed Forces in Asia. Approximately 95 percent of the 260 men in this unit were from Chinese ancestry.

The 987th Signal Operations Company began in Camp Crowder, Mo. This unit was created for services within China and as a liaison between American and Chinese troops. They traveled throughout Asia ranging from places such as Burma to China. These soldiers in the 14th Air

Service Group and the 987th Signal Company were courageous men who put their lives on the line for their country and to preserve democracy.

During their stay in the nation's Capital, the veterans visited the Pentagon, Arlington Cemetery, Newseum, National Museum of the Marine Corps and ate at many local restaurants each specializing in different type of cuisine. On their final night in Washington, DC they attended a banquet highlighting their service at the China Chef restaurant.

On the second day, the veterans came to OCA. They all entered the office with matching red and blue commemorative WWII hats. George Wu, Deputy Director of OCA, welcomed the guest with a short discussion on the recent growth of OCA and its mission to advance the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans

"OCA is honored to host the Chinese American WWII Combined Reunion at our National Center." Wu said of the event. "Our veterans continue to inspire all of us to serve our nation and our communities."

After the speech the guest socialized amongst one another and with the OCA staff. The staff also took them on a tour around the OCA National Center. They were able to learn about what OCA is currently promoting and how to get better involved within their own chapters. The veterans shared stories, tea and took many pictures. They spoke about their jobs after their time in the army, about their children, grandchildren and what their own OCA chapters have accomplished in the past year. They all chatted as if they were all old friends.

The veterans and their family members all left the OCA headquarters with big smiles on their faces. They all thanked the staff and told them they had a wonderful time meeting them and touring the office. The OCA staff had a great time meeting with the veterans and hopes to see them back here soon. ■

Remembering Hiu Ling Ng

What His Death Says About Our Broken Immigration System

Michelle Bar and Sarah Smith

Hiu Ling Ng was a loving father of two sons, devoted husband and computer engineer living in New York. His death, on August 6, 2008, was not only a tragedy but a wake up call for America.

Ng, who was married to a U.S. citizen was a victim of America's deplorable detention and deportation system due to an overstayed visa years ago. He was arrested and detained, even though he was on his way to his final interview for a green card. While in detention, despite weeks of complaining of pain, Ng slowly wasted away in the custody of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) after being violently transported through jails and detention centers in three different states.

He was not granted the right to an independent medical evaluation and even was denied a wheelchair when he complained he could not stand. He was accused of lying about his back pain. Ng was dragged in shackles to from a federal lock up in New York to a Rhode Island detention center.

Ng continued to complain about his back pain, but his symptoms were ignored. He was too weak to speak to his family on the phone, meet with his lawyers and even was not able to use the toilet. By the time he was finally

sent to a hospital, his spine had fractured and cancer was throughout his body. He died two days after his 34th birthday.

All people have a basic level of dignity in this country. Are undocumented immigrants exempt? Ng was in no way a criminal or even a menace to society, yet the current immigration policy forces a negative image upon all immigrants. What should we do about people like Ng, who never received their deportation notification in the mail due to an address change? In this broken immigration system we have, how can we know if someone is being treated humanely?

Ng was not afforded the right to life. Clearly, to deprive anyone of timely medical attention when one has a debilitating disease is wrong. Hopefully, this tragic incident, and the countless others OCA continues to monitor will encourage Congress and the Administration to fix our broken immigration system, so no one has to endure the pain and suffering that Ng had to. Unfortunately, it is too late for Ng and his family.

In June 2008, OCA participated in the Night of 1,000 Conversations to give OCA members an opportunity to express their concerns regarding the raids on homes conducted by DHS, the lack of adequate medical care for individuals in detention, and the current backlog of citizenship applications. OCA believes we must continue to engage in this national dialogue. To know Hiu Ling Ng's story, and remember it, will hopefully encourage people to gain a new perspective and take a stance on what they believe is just. ■

All people have a basic level of dignity in this country...Hopefully, this tragic incident will encourage Congress to pass the Detainee Basic Medical Care Act, so no one has to endure the pain and suffering that Ng had to.

OCA and University of Maryland Launch “A Portrait of Chinese Americans”

OCA and the Asian American Studies Program (AASST) at University of Maryland recently presented a *Preview of “A Portrait of Chinese Americans.”*

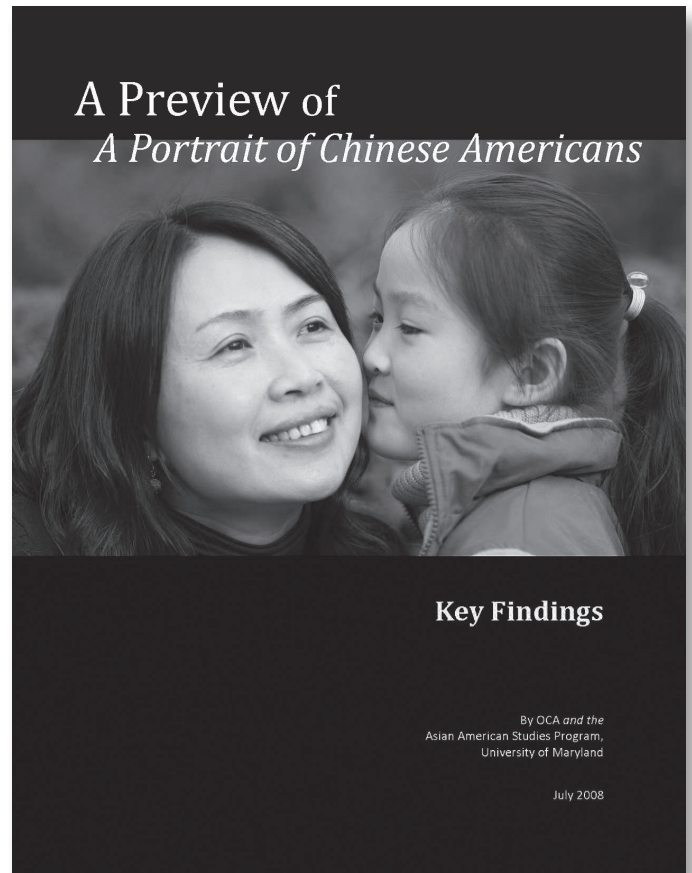
The *Preview* acquaints the reader with the key findings of A Portrait of Chinese Americans and includes information on population, residential patterns, employment, income and poverty, education, multiethnicity and multiraciality, and naturalization of Chinese Americans.

The *Portrait* is the most comprehensive national report on Chinese Americans. This report presents an analysis of the latest census data in a quick reference format with colorful statistical tables, maps and charts, and is being released in conjunction with OCA’s 35th Anniversary Celebration. Copies were distributed at the OCA National Convention, and are also currently on display at the OCA National Center.

OCA and AAST came together to address a leading issue facing the Asian Pacific American (APA) community – the lack of timely, relevant and accurate information that enables advocates, community leaders, and policy makers to effectively educate the public and advocate on behalf of the APA community.

The completed *Portrait* will be launched later this autumn. OCA thanks Dr. Larry Shinagawa, the *Portrait of Chinese Americans’* principal investigator and AAST’s director, and his staff for maintaining a high level of academic objectivity and keeping the findings accessible to the public.

To access the *Portrait*, visit the AAST web site at <http://www.aast.umd.edu/ocaportrait.html>. ■



Responding to Hate Crimes A Community Action Guide

Published by OCA with generous support
from The Allstate Foundation

An educational tool for OCA chapters and all
communities seeking a practical, step-by-step
guide to hate crimes response.

CHINESE AMERICAN POPULATION

- Chinese Americans number at 3,497,484, constituting 1.2 percent of the entire U.S. population. Furthermore, Chinese Americans account for one in four Asian Americans (24.3%), making them the largest ethnic group among Asian Americans.
- The Chinese American population (single-ethnic Chinese) increased 28.5 percent during the period between 2000 and 2006.

CHINESE AMERICAN SUB-ETHNIC GROUPS

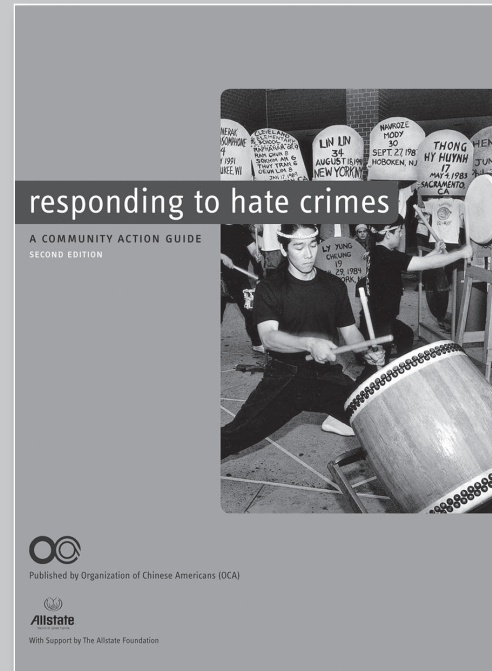
- Foreign-born Chinese Americans hail from different sub-ethnic countries of origin. Three of five (59.5%) come from mainland China; one in six from Taiwan (15.9%); one in 10 from Hong Kong (9.4%); and, one in six are members of the Chinese Diaspora; defined as all countries in the world except for mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the United States (15.3%).

U.S. BORN/FOREIGN-BORN, PLACE OF BIRTH AND GENERATION

- 29.4 percent are U.S.-born Chinese Americans. Among the U.S.-born Chinese Americans, 88.3 percent were born in 15 states. 53.8 percent were born in the states of California and New York.
- Seven in 10 (70.6%) Chinese Americans are foreign-born. Nearly all 97 percent foreign-born Chinese immigrants come from 15 countries. 85 percent originated from China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.
- The Chinese American community is almost evenly divided between the less acculturated first generation (54.2%) on one hand, and the more linguistically and socially acculturated 1.5 generation and the second generation and beyond combined (45.8%).

CHINESE AMERICAN RESIDENTIAL PATTERNS

- More than half of all Chinese Americans reside in New York (53.8%). 55 percent of all Chinese Americans metropolitan regional urban areas.
- In the past 20 years, Chinese Americans have settled traditional ethnic enclaves characterized as Chinatowns. Many of the more affluent Chinese Americans now reside in suburban communities commonly known as ethnoburbs or mixed Asiatowns.



Introduction to Hate Crimes

Learn about what a hate crime or hate incident is, how they are tracked, and the importance of reporting them.

Victim Support

Provides resources for victims, including legal referrals, mental health counseling, how to apply for monetary compensation, and the role the community can play in providing assistance and advocacy.

Community Response

A guide for actions a community can take in the aftermath of a hate crime. How to organize a community, interact with the media, provide education, and build coalitions.

The guide speaks to all community members and leaders, from those who have little to no organizing experience to veteran activists. The guide also has resources for law enforcement personnel, the legal community, educators and parents, youth, and victim assistance providers.

**The guide is free to the public upon request.
Copies are limited.**

Contact Pei-Un Yee to request a copy:
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Getting the Family Immigration Story Out

Asian American Justice Center (AAJC) Encourages Action

Tuyet G Duong | AAJC

Recently, I wrote a blog on my own family immigration story: how my mother-in-law's sister is stuck in the long line of siblings waiting patiently to immigrate to the United States. Vietnamese American siblings have to wait 10 years. Priscilla Huang of National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF) wrote a kind note: "Thanks, Tuyet, for guest blogging on *Warrior Prose* and connecting the personal to the political."

How apt that phrase is – "connecting the personal to the political." That was our failure in last year's meltdown and Congress' inability to pass comprehensive immigration reform. We in the immigrant rights movement struggled to connect the personal souls and stories of the millions of immigrants around America to the very political process happening in Washington, D.C.

How do we do that next time? Will there be a next time? Which Presidential candidate will do it next time?

While these questions will remain unanswered for at least another year, national immigrant rights organizations around the nation are slowly picking themselves up, brushing off their knees, healing their bruised hearts, and beginning to renew their drumbeat for progressive immigration reform.

Because our system is still broken and needs to be fixed. Specifically, the family immigration system is broken. There are 4 million people caught up in the family immigration backlog and more than half are Asian American. More than 60 percent of Asian Americans immigrate through this system. It is inhumane that Filipino siblings have to wait two decades to reunite with their families and that Mexican spouses and children have to wait years to join families in America.

The messaging for family immigration seems deceptively simple: don't keep families and children and spouses apart – don't make head of households have to support to families—they contribute to our economies and communities. However, when these compelling messages encounter anti-immigrant activists, we have hit a firm, decisive, and sometimes hateful wall. There is so much more to be done.

We need to get our stories out there. We need to persuade newspapers and opinion editorial boards and congressmen who only care about business-based immigration that family-based immigration matters just as much. Public polling shows that Americans believe in immigrants' contributions to our society, but are not so much convinced about their contributions to



the economy. We need data showing how Asian American immigrants who have immigrated through the family-based system have contributed to our economy, our bottom line. I asked a researcher at the Economic Policy Institute once, "What is the Asian American immigrant slice of the GDP?"

Only then will we be able to sway the minds and pens of lawmakers and policymakers in Washington, DC. With powerful information and powerful stories and activated communities calling DC and knocking on the Congress' doors, we will have change. We will also have healthy immigrant families that can continue to build America. This is also how we can connect that "personal to the political" and ensure that the Asian American immigrants are also embodied in the human side of American immigration law. ■

OCA Makes National News in Reaction to Poor Olympic Sportsmanship

Michelle Bar | OCA National Center

This summer's Olympic Games in Beijing, China were extremely remarkable to APA's and all Americans. Audiences all over the globe felt part of the Olympics triumphs of such stars as Michael Phelps, Usain Bolt and Roger Federer. However, amid all the joy and celebration was controversy. Prior to the Olympic Games, the Olympic Spanish basketball team posed in a photograph for a publicity shoot in their official Olympic jerseys on a basketball court. Decorated on the court was an image of a Chinese dragon. Every player of the team pulled back the corner of their eyes in the all-too familiar and derogatory "slant eye" gesture.

As soon as word broke that this photo had been published, OCA National Center and other chapters were contacted for comment. Sarah Smith, communications manager at OCA National Center, told ABC News she expected more from a group of professional athletes. She continued by saying "It's something that I haven't seen since I was a kid. I can't speak for what is considered funny in Spain. I don't know if it has the same impact that it would here."

OCA's Deputy Director, George C. Wu, told the Associated Press that "as Asian Pacific Americans support the U.S. Olympic athletes, many of whom are Asian Pacific Americans, it is disturbing to OCA that Spain's basketball team would introduce such offensive and divisive imagery into the Olympics. Highly regarded NBA players like Pau Gasol and Calderon need to also understand that these gestures are

often associated with bullying and taunting in schools and are harmful to the communities that support their teams."

Others were quoted in their respected regions, like Vicki Shu Smolin (OCA-NY), who told the New York Post that the "slant-eye" gesture has a sordid history, and that while people today might think it's harmless, it goes back to a time when the

Chinese and Japanese were painted as evil and demonic.

Ironically, the Spain's Olympic team is sponsored by Li-Ning Footwear, a Chinese athletics company. The Spanish team recently signed a 4-year contract with the sport wear company. The owner, Li Ning, was the last torchbearer in the Olympic Opening Ceremony finale.



Spanish basketball player, Jose Manuel Calderon, wrote on his blog that the picture was not interpreted correctly. He claims that a sponsor asked the team "to pose with a 'wink' to our participation in Beijing." Calderon denies any sort of racism and stated that he has a "great respect for the East and its people."

Madrid is one of the candidates to host the 2016 Summer Olympic Games. This event may harm their chances of being granted this privilege. The site of the Summer Games will be announced next year.

Hopefully these actions taken by the Spanish basketball team will raise awareness and educate others not to tolerate racism. ■

OCA Chapters Highlight Collaboration and Fun

OCA members have brought a sense of collaboration to all their efforts during the warmer months, from the National Convention to festivals and APA Heritage Month. It was a season of camaraderie and dedication to Asian Pacific Americans all across the nation. We showcased teamwork, energy and, of course, a lot of fun!



clockwise from top:
OCA-South Florida, OCA-San Mateo,
OCA-New England, OCA-New Jersey

facing page:
OCA-New Jersey

OCA-Pittsburgh

OCA-Pittsburgh Chapter, once again, participated in the Pittsburgh Folk Festival, consecutively for more than 40 years dating back to early 1960s, a very proud tradition. This is one of the major fundraising events for the Pittsburgh Chapter. Dancing programs were provided free by the OCA Youth Performance Ensemble and Lotus Blossom under the leadership of VP of Cultural Affairs, Chia-Pih Shaw. Cultural displays focusing on kid's workshop on Chinese crafts were also provided free under the guidance of Phanny Yang and Sarah Liu with Yue Fang Lee and Jimmy Cheng served as Ambassadors. Chinese foods and Chinese souvenirs were also on sale at the Food Booth responsible by William Liu and Sue Yeh and Marketplace by Kim Kuehn and Frances Wong. Many OCA members contributed to the success of this event, including Rae Ang, Dali Li, Tong Lee, Dorothy Lee Green, and many others.

OCA-NJ

The OCA-New Jersey Chapter celebrated Asian/Pacific American Heritage at the Majestic Restaurant & Buffet in Wayne on June 1. The 10th Annual Luncheon honored OCA-NJ Chapter Internship and Scholarship Recipients which this year included 12 high school seniors and one college student. The keynote speaker was Gin Gee Moy, retired principal of Public School 12 in New York City. Her message was inspiring as well as filled with moments of humor.

The OCA-NJ Internship this year was awarded to Mario Lu, sophomore at New York University and majoring in Finance & Accounting. Mario will be placed in the office of United States Senator Frank Lautenberg. A stipend of \$800 will be awarded at the end of the four week summer internship program.

The essay topic this year was the following:

Do you support the belief that Asian-Americans are considered a political bloc? If so, why is this diverse group so unified? If not, identify some of the differences in Asian-American voting behavior. Discuss some ways in how Asian-Americans might increase their influence in American politics.

Winner of the Robert E. Wone Memorial Scholarship was Jolene L. Wang of Piscataway High School and will be attending Yale University.

Following the awards the buffet was enjoyed by all. We would like to thank all OCA members and friends who attended our luncheon this year and to all who support our Annual Holiday Ball that help fund our Internship & Scholarship Program.



OCA-Greater Los Angeles

On August 16, 2008, OCA-GLA held a special event called “Summer Relief: A Community Mixer to Benefit Ongoing Disaster Relief in China and Myanmar.” OCA-GLA brought together over 14 community organizations and over 250 activists, community leaders, professionals, and artists from throughout Southern California. The event occurred at the Morono Kiang Gallery in the historic Bradbury Building in Downtown Los Angeles and featured an art exhibit from leading Beijing artist Li Yan called “Quotidian Truths.” The event raised funds for a good cause and provided cultural awareness and entertainment for all. The event also helped community members to build alliances and exchange ideas in a fun environment, friendships that will be crucial in a crisis. The event also featured a cocktail reception, DJ, and a performance from singer/songwriter Alex Hwang.

Also, 22 members of OCA-GLA and Families with Children from China (FCC) attended Chinese American Community Night at Dodger Stadium on Aug. 20.

The FCC children watched the pre-game show of Chinese Cultural dancers, and saw OCA-GLA’s president Ed Lew and FCC’s president Jeri Floyd-Okamoto on the big jumbo screen as they were introduced on the field and OCA-GLA and FCC were honored as part of the evening’s festivities.

The game was exciting for the OCA-GLA members as well. For many of the OCA-GLA members/Die Hard Dodger Fans, the game was a real nail-bitter. The evening didn’t end well for the Dodgers who finally lost to the Rockies 3-4.



left:
OCA-Orange County

facing page:
OCA-Sacramento

OCA-Greater Sacramento

The OCA Greater Sacramento Chapter held its Annual "Reception at the Capitol" on August 13, 2008. The event, which was held at the Capitol Rotunda, drew over 250 people who listened to various API legislators and state officials speak. The event was sponsored by Wells Fargo and State Farm. The legislators in attendance were Senator Leland Yee, Assembly Members Alan Nakanishi, Mike Eng, Mary Hayashi, Fiona Ma, Ted Lieu, Warren Furutani, and Ira Raskin, Senator Lou Correa, Assembly Elect Mariko Yamada, Dr. Judy Chu, Chair of the Board of Equalization, and Betty Yee, Board of Equalization. This year, OCA President Joyce Eng presented to Wells Fargo the 2008 "Corporate Sponsor of the Year" Award. Wells Fargo was a sponsor of OCA's Dragon Boat Festival and is an OCA Business Advisory Council Partner. Special thanks go to Mark Wilson of Wilson Vineyards and Grizelda's Catering for providing fine wines and wonderful food for this event.



OCA-Westchester & Hudson Valley

OCA-WHV is going green! In collaboration with Westchester County, and sponsored by Con Edison, OCA-WHV will organize a cross-cultural program of high school students from China and Chinese American students in Westchester to learn about energy conservation practices in the United States. The Westchester County Hilltop Hanover Farm will serve as the "hands-on classroom for the introduction of this environmental education program, providing a staff of professionals qualified to instruct our visiting Chinese students and other high school students from the County. This farm is an education center intended to promote sustainable agriculture and environmental education, making this setting perfect for such a learning exchange.

The day-long program, which will be offered on two separate days running from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., will convene approximately 40 high school students from

China visiting Westchester, and 40 Chinese-American students and majority students from local schools. Throughout the day, they will be engaged in group activities that entail various aspects of the environment, sustainability, and the impacts of human activity and climate change. To ensure full integration and interaction, all groups will include an equal mix of Chinese, Chinese-American, and majority students.

In May, OCA-WHV celebrated Asian Heritage Month with a day long festival with over 3000 attendees. Activities included dance from various Asian countries and many other activities, to display the rich and diverse Asian heritage. OCA-WHV had a voter's registration drive at the event. We also collected donations for the Disasters in Asia, \$1000 to Myanmar and \$4000 to China. Our disaster relief drive was well publicized in the media, many of our board members were interviewed, and this will be an on going project.

OCA-NW Arkansas

On May 17, 2008, the chapter held an "Asian Women's Health and Wellness Fair" that was open to the public. The event featured many experts who provided tailored insights into health issues relevant to Asian women. Some of the topics presented were: Colon Cancer Screening in Asian Women; Detection of Breast Cancer in Asian Women; Cervical Cancer: Incidence and Risks in Asian Women; and Gerontological Care and Aging in Asians. In addition, the Benton County Health Department set up a booth

with a couple of employees answering questions regarding county health services and distributing pamphlets.

Two of our members traveled to the nation's capital for the annual OCA National Convention in Washington, DC. Stephanie Chin and Myron Eng took advantage of the opportunity to meet up with old acquaintances and make new ones in addition to bringing back many great ideas to energize our chapter for the future

OCA-Long Island

An enthusiastic group of 39 members from OCA-Long Island went to Washington, DC to help celebrate the 35th Anniversary of OCA National at the 2008 National Convention from July 31-Aug. 3, and to congratulate our 2008 GM/OCA National Unsung Heroes Ann & Howard Chan. Both truly exemplify the true spirit of volunteerism.

The Rotary Club of Chinatown, NY honored Cammy Lee, our OCA-LI Board member for her continuous dedication and contribution to the Field of Health on June 5. Many OCA-LI members attended the Flushing Central Lions Club's 2008 Annual Gala at the Sheraton East Hotel in Flushing, NY on Aug. 29.

On June 28th, OCA-LI participated in the American Cancer Society's (ACS) first Relay for Life on the grounds of the Great Neck South High School in Great Neck, LI. As a cancer survivor in remission, OCA-LI President Gladys Yan, along with three other survivors led the first lap around the track. Many organizations, clubs, businesses, and individuals carrying their banners joined the survivors to walk and to help fund raise for the Flushing Asian Initiative Unit of ACS. The event turned out to be a huge success. Even a few heavy rain drops could not dampen OCA-LI's spirit and good will as everyone in attendance

enjoyed the dance performances, food contest, hula dancing, songs, and camaraderie amongst each other.

Working together with the Korean American Voter's Council, and the Korean American community, we supported and attended their annual scholarship dinner in Flushing, NY on June 21. OCA-LI members sat at the VIP table at the NYS Chinese Auxiliary Police Associations annual dinner in Flushing, NY with Queens's community leaders on June 22.

With a major election coming up in November, OCA-LI's goal is to increase voting registration. On June 28th at the Flushing Mall, Flushing, NY, we were ready with signs in Chinese, Korean, and English. We made sure that registration forms were in all three languages. John Tandana, OCA-LI Executive VP participated in a panel discussion on stage, to talk about OCA and why it's important for Asian American citizens to exercise their right to vote. "No Vote, No Voice, No Power," a phrase introduced by the APA Voter's Alliance, says it all.

On Sept. 20, OCA-LI will once again be at the Flushing Mall to register new voters and to educate and remind registered voters, that it is important for them to vote on Election Day in November.

OCA-Eastern Virginia

On July 30, 2008, we gathered together, all ready for the car ride up to Washington D.C. After four long hours in the car, we finally arrived at the Hilton Washington Hotel, the exact location where we would eat, sleep, and most importantly, learn.

Both the Youth Leadership Training Day and the Youth Day were fun and filled with activities that were not only entertaining, but also meaningful and educational. On the Youth Leadership Training day, there was a group of about 50 high school students. During the eight hours we spent together that day, everyone met new people from all over the country. There was no need to be anyone but yourself, because the people were all very accepting of every individual's ideas. Throughout the day, we broke up into groups several times and learned problem solving skills as well as new communication skills. These abilities that we learned are very useful in today's society and the counselors did a fantastic job of presenting it to the students. Also, we discussed the role of Asian-Americans in the American society today and watched a film about the famous Vincent Chin case.

All the activities we did made me more aware of how Asian-Americans are seen in today's society and how we can become a leader, no matter the odds.

OCA-Greater Houston

During the Summer of 2008 OCA-GH participated in the APA Heritage month of May events at the annual heritage month and Dragon Boat festivals with an outreach booth and raffle baskets and on May 9, co-hosted a talk and discussion with Irwin Tang, author of “Asian Texans” as a part of our yearlong APIA Author Book Talk Series held in coalition with other local APIA community organizations. On June 22nd, we co-sponsored a Citizenship Workshop with Boat People SOS with Vietnamese and Chinese bilingual volunteers. The chapter worked on updating editions of the 2008-2009 APIA Pro Bono Legal Resource Guide (translated into Chinese and Vietnamese) and the 2008-2009 Community Resource Guide, both projects of the OCA-GH Advocacy Center in time for distribution in the Fall. The OCA-GH Chapter has also been working on a strategic plan during the summer months and preparing for the events of the Fall/Winter.

On September 20, 2008, the chapter hosted its annual gala honoring outstanding local APA employees & community leaders that have contributed significantly to the APA, Houston, and global communities. The 2008 honorees are Ms. Sushma Bhan (Shell Oil) and Officer Thanh Nguyen. (City of Houston Fire Department) – Two exemplary role models in both the workplace and the community. The evening will also feature the presentation of the OCA-GH Outstanding Community Achievement Award to the national APIA community leader, Daphne Kwok. This evening of service will be celebrated with an awards program reception & gala, charity casino night, and silent auction at the Westin Oaks Hotel (5011 Westheimer, Houston, TX 77027).

On September 19, 2008, OCA-GH cohosted a talk and discussion with Eddie Fung, author of “The Adventures of Eddie Fung” as a part of our yearlong APIA Author Book Talk Series held in coalition with other local APIA community organizations.

On Saturday, October 11, 2008, the Chapter will be hosting its annual Advocacy & Legal Issues Conference Day focusing on Hate Crimes, Immigration, Poll Monitoring training, Human Trafficking, and an overview of other issues facing the community. Also featured that day is the Texas launch of the research publication, “A Portrait of Chinese Americans”, the first in a planned series of reports on the Asian Pacific American community published jointly by OCA and the Asian American Studies Program of the University of Maryland. The same weekend marks the kickoff of the 4th Annual Houston APIA Film Festival organized by OCA-GH. As a part of the Allstate Foundation support for Hate Crimes Awareness project, we are screening “Who Killed Vincent Chin?” and the new film “Vincent Who?” and having a community reception and discussion with the two co-directors of the films respectively, Christine Choy and Curtis Chin on that Saturday evening as an ending for the conference and the kick-off of the Film Festival.

OCA-Eastern Virginia



OCA-Fairfield Connecticut

On June 12, 2008 Governor M. Jodi Rell officially signed into law P.A. 08-166 creating an Asian Pacific American Commission in Connecticut.

Slated to become a reality July 1, 2009, the new Public Act, although historic, falls short in that the budget is only for \$25, 000.

OCA-FC, the Fairfield County Chapter of Connecticut is working with the Asian Pacific American Coalition (APAC), a non-partisan group of concerned citizens who are leaders in their respective Asian communities, to prepare for the next Connecticut legislative session that starts January, 2009 to get funding increased. The Commission would work to advise the Governor, the General Assembly, state agencies, departments and commissions in developing policy initiatives, programs and effective legislation to address issues of concern to the APA community.

Representative William Tong (D-Stamford), 147th District, the first Asian elected to the Connecticut state

legislature introduced Bill No. 5321. Bill No. 5321 is an act establishing an Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission in Connecticut.

The state government already has established the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission (six full-time posts and a budget of \$571,636) and the African-American Affairs Commission (four full-time posts and a budget of \$413,436) to advise state officials on issues of concern to those groups. There is also a Native American Affairs Commission.

Also, through the generous donation of individuals and corporation, OCA-FC (Fairfield County, Connecticut) has raised a total of \$6,745 to help rebuild a school and support the students who have been affected by the earthquake.

The kickoff activity for the Sichuan Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund was at the annual Family Picnic sponsored by OCA-FC on Saturday, June 14, 2008 at Scalzi Park in Stamford.

OCA-San Mateo

The Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month began as Asian Pacific American Heritage Week in May 1979. Our Chapter's co-founder, Hayden Lee, was executive director of OCA then and was at the White House signing on Oct. 2, 1978, when President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution – public law 95-419. It became a permanent month-long event in May of 1993.

The purpose of the law was to honor the achievements of Asian/Pacific Americans and to recognize their contributions to the U.S. May was selected because of two significant events in history: on May 7, 1843, Nakahama Manjiro (a.k.a. John Mung or John Manjiro) became the first Japanese immigrant to arrive in the United States and on May 10, 1869, the transcontinental railroad

was completed in large measure by Chinese laborers.

The Asian Pacific American Heritage Celebration was an opportunity to reach out to the young generation and the diverse ethnicities within San Mateo County. The collaborative project involved the OCA San Mateo Chapter, the Asian American Curriculum Project, Inc., Japanese American Citizens League, and the Downtown San Mateo Association (DSMA) shared the common goal to highlight the Asian Pacific American culture and promote the local San Mateo businesses. It was a fun and educational event free and open to the public. Families joined us in celebrating the achievements and history of Asians, local arts and crafts, food and drinks, and raffle prizes held on Saturday, May 10, from

10 am to 5 pm, at the at the San Mateo Central Park. Takahashi Market provided tasty food to keep hungry people content.

The sunny day began with Juliet Fernandez, Warren Slocum's office, opened with "The National Anthem." Steve Okamoto, JAACL San Mateo Co-President gave everyone a warm welcome. It was our pleasure to feature host Vicky Nguyen, television personality of NBC-11, who was wonderful with her outgoing personality. San Mateo City Council Member John Lee filled in for the honorable Carole Groom, Mayor of San Mateo. Mr. Kelly Mitter, of the Downtown San Mateo Association was next, followed by Supervisor Jerry Hill who presented OCA San Mateo Chapter President, Newsy Yan, with

OCA-Georgia

On July 12th, 2008, about 200 people attended the OCA 25th anniversary and the OCA + ACP scholarship awards banquet at Happy Valley Restaurant. Nine young scholars were awarded the scholarship. OCA also held an appreciation luncheon on August 9, 2008 for its sponsors of the OCA 25th anniversary



OCA-Georgia

OCA-Central Illinois

OCA-CIL Bruce Yamashita and Steve Okino at IWU to hear Mr. Yamashita's experiences of racial discrimination. The documentary of his experiences, produced by Mr. Okino, was integrated into the presentation. An excellent opportunity to hear the historical impact that Captain Yamashita had in a demographically shifting society. A book signing opportunity followed. A special thank you to Dr. Hiroko Furo for her support in bringing this event to the community.

OCA-CIL was an active participant in the Inaugural YWCA Racial Justice Summit. This one-day summit was designed to help participants investigate ways to more effectively dismantle racism within our respective institutions and our communities. The event was well-attended and future learning sessions are planned.

OCA-CIL partnered with two area Rotary Clubs in hosting a group of four individuals from South Korea who studied our country's institutions, economy, and culture

while observing how their own professions are practiced in the states. OCA-CIL hosted dinner that evening at Hayashi's Japanese Restaurant.

APAHM events in May included a visit by Dr. Michael Lin and Mr. William Wong at State Farm Insurance. A facilitated session challenged everyone on issues facing APAs on a national, community, and workplace level. Attendees were inspired and motivated to do their part and participate. In addition, OCA-CIL participated in Mitsubishi Motors' Asian Heritage Fair that was attended by over 200 people and included samplings of Asian food and activities.

OCA-CIL also donated a box of "Robot Stories and More Screenplays" by Greg Pak to a local university film class, several chapter members participated in a China Earthquake Relief Fund Drive and in a Unity Speaker Summer Camp.

a Proclamation. Senator Leland Yee, gave AACP, Inc. a Proclamation.

Lilian Kim of ABC-7 News was great as she guided us through the afternoon festivities. A variety of Asian talent was showcased. Kariyushi Kai – Okinawan Music was passionate, Jeff Whittier – Music from India highlighted the flute and drums, Shaolin Cultural Center – Chinese Lion Dance delighted the crowd, Karlina – Indonesian duet featuring vocalist Karlina Gunawan dazzled with her wonderful voice, Charlie Chin – Asian American Folk Music Performance gave people an appreciation for the Chinese experience, San Mateo Kendo Dojo – Kendo Demonstration impressed us with their sword fighting, and the Kapalakiko Hawaiian Band kept the emotions upbeat.

Bigsumo Asian T-shirts, Kay Woo ceramics, Kayoko Designs Yuzen-Shi Jewelry, Patricia Jeong handmade crafts, and Pomegranate Designs Michele Yamaguma's creative art were the Exhibits displayed. We were happy to have Rosemary Gong, author of Good Luck Life, Oliver Chin author of Year of the Rat and Julie Black Belt, Hazuki Kataoka Kaishibai versions of Peach Boy and Moon Princess share their books. The San Mateo Police Cadets made sure everyone behaved themselves.

Vicky Nguyen stated, "It was a pleasure for me to co-emcee the festival with Steve. I was really impressed with the program. The exhibitors and the performers were excellent, and represented the diverse cultures that make up the Asian American community. I really enjoyed

interacting with the presenters at the booths indoors and outdoors. I loved seeing all the young people there-- from the Boy Scouts who sold raffle tickets to the scholarship winner who performed part of his speech for the audience. Keeping our culture alive, celebrating our diversity, and inspiring young Asian Americans to make a difference by getting involved--it was a great day in the San Mateo community and the perfect way to celebrate Asian Heritage Month." Lilian Kim shared, "Neither too large, nor too small. It was a perfect, personable event to connect with our culture." Saichi Kawahara, Kapalakiko Hawaiian Band added, "Thank you for having us perform and awarding us every courtesy. We enjoyed ourselves. Mahalo a nui loa."

OCA-South Florida

OCA-South Florida Chapter celebrated the Asian Pacific American Heritage Month for the tenth year with cultural programs at libraries, with special performances by the Indigenous Peoples of Taiwan dance troupe -- "Memories of the Mountain, Calling of the Sea." Co-organized with United Chinese Association of Florida, OCA-SFL held a successful second annual Miss Florida Asia on July 12, 2008 with over 600 spectators. After an exciting evening of Pre-Pageant Interview, National Costume, Swimsuit, Talent, Evening Gown and on-stage Q&A, Miss Florida Asia 2008 went to May Igawa. Tia Vo was crowned First Princess, and Kayla Chin Nuke Second Princess. In June, Winnie Tang, President of OCA-SFL, became the first Chinese American to receive the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Florida Commission on the Status of Women for her dedication and tireless community advocacy work; she was recognized as a potent force in making significant contributions to her local community.

Winnie helps immigrants become citizens through ongoing citizenship drives in the Asian community, and organizes job fairs and workshops in areas such as legal, welfare, health, education, and civil rights. Working closely and effectively with minority communities and mainstream media, she works tirelessly to organize programs such as the annual Chinese New Year Festivals, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebration, Miss Florida Asia.

Historically, Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) have not participated actively in our democratic process. Voter

turnout in our community lags behind that of whites, African-Americans and Latinos. The percentage of the Asian American population registered to vote remains among the lowest of all ethnic groups. As the fastest growing minority group in the United States, and as a group with an increasing number of community-specific social and political challenges, it is increasingly important that APAs play an active role in American politics and government.

APAs are 2.2 percent of the total population of Florida (18 millions). APAs have increased to nearly 400,000 in Florida – five fold since Census 2000 – but too few APAs vote.

The 2008 United States presidential election is about to become one of the most significant elections in decades.

The outcome of many difficult issues – from the war in Iraq to the economic recession to immigration policy – could depend on who wins the White House this November.

This election of many "firsts" raises numerous questions for Asian-Americans and Asian-American issues. What is the place of the Asian-American in Election 2008? What bearing will Election 2008 have on Asian-American issues such as immigration, breaking APA stereotypes and the glass ceiling?

OCA-SFL co-sponsored a very successful "Meet the Candidates" event in August, organized by Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida, with over 50 candidates and 100 plus Asian American and other community members.

NANAY, Inc. and OCA-South Florida Chapter are joining forces to organize a "Candidates Forum" on September 14, 2008. Presidential and congressional candidates have been invited to the Forum. The purpose of this Forum is to give candidates an opportunity to address a wide range of issues that affect community sustainability and livability in our community and country. At the Forum, APAs will hear the candidate's positions and make informed decisions before voting.

The November election includes a ballot item affecting the APA community. After 5 years of working closely with Florida State Senator Joe Geller, State Representative Ronald Brise and former St. Rep. Phillip Brutus, OCA-SFL is happy to report that the 2007 Legislature successfully passed the joint resolution to repeal the so-called Alien Land Law from the Florida State Constitution during the last week of the Legislative session. Throughout these years,

OCA-SFL has built an extensive coalition with various organizations in the Florida community, many of whom expressed strong support to strengthen OCA's effort in getting rid of this discriminatory language. Now, the new challenge is to spread the message across the State of Florida to vote "YES" on the amendment in the November election.

With the important Presidential election and Florida amendment 1 ballot, OCA-SFL will actively register new voters and promote Get-Out-The-Vote before the November election.

OCA Interns

Where Are They Now?

Brian Redondo was an OCA Intern in 2004 where he was placed at the NAACP. Brian graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 2005 and now works at the Asian American Legal Defense Education Fund in New York City.

How did you get involved with OCA?

I found out about OCA through former interns who also went to the University of Pennsylvania and through the Pan-Asian American Community House (PAACH). Former alumni always did good outreach and encouraged students to apply for the OCA Internship

At the time, I was just beginning to formulate a strong political consciousness. I was interested in seeing how change is brought about outside the campus level and what that means in a professional sense. I wanted that exposure that only a place like Washington, DC offered. I also didn't understand the government too well. The OCA internship definitely met and exceeded those expectations.

What motivated you to get involved with APA issues and other social justice issues?

I've always been aware of my "otherness" growing up in a predominately white New Jersey suburb. Through relationships formed during high school and also within the Filipino community as well, I constantly questioned social relationships and tried to understand the root of how people acted in situations. That type of curiosity and social structures coupled with community service and trips abroad gave me a broader perspective on the type of issues that I'm passionate for now.

In college, this is when it came all together. I was heavily active with the Asian Pacific Student Coalition, an umbrella group on campus. The coalition was aligned with other students of color. It enlightened my social and political awareness and helped me understand what institutional change

was and how's it possible. One of the most salient things I was involved in during college was with the East Coast Asian American Student Conference. I attended my first conference at Duke in 2002 and then helped with the Georgetown conference. In 2005, I chaired the 2005 ECAASU Conference at the University of Pennsylvania.

What were some of your highlights of the OCA internship?

I met a plethora of APA student activists that really inspired me and even today still serve as my network through professional and social relationships. The networking was great and also gave me a lot of affirmation of what other students were facing and validated my experiences as well.

The brownbag sessions were very important and connected us to other interns and taught us different skills that were applicable. I also observed a lot at my placement at the NAACP and learned how work was done in Washington, DC.

Through the networking at the time and since it was an election year, there were a lot of opportunities to attend some partisan events. I was able to attend the Democratic National Convention in Boston, MA that year, which one of the highlights was seeing John Kerry speak. It was such a huge spectacle and it was a great opportunity of me.

What do you do professionally?

I work at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund (AALDEF). I started off as the Voting Rights Public Education Coordinator and helped to coordinate the 2006 Election Protection project. It involved

poll monitoring and protecting the Asian American vote in several states across the country. After the 2006 elections, I moved within the organization to be the Program Associate for the Educational Equity and Youth Rights Project. I coordinated the National Asian American Education Advocates Network. We organized our first summit in April 2008 in New York City and it was huge success. One of my important projects was writing a report on No Child Left Behind and its effects on Asian American students.

What issues would you encourage readers to get involved in?

I definitely believe public education is an area that the Asian American community is left out of the debate, especially because of the model minority myth. It's something our community should take more seriously. Recognize the diversity of experiences and to close the achievement gaps in not just a problem in our community but everywhere. The public education system is falling apart and it's something that we need to address. Students and teachers should be the ones who are put first when reform is being talked about. Using business principles in the public education system is not working and is having a detrimental effect on the system.



Getting to Know Our Partners

Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)

Stacy Lavilla | AAPCHO

The Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) is a national not-for-profit association of community-based organizations dedicated to improving the health status and access of medically underserved Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in the United States, its freely associated states and territories.

The organization was created in 1987 by visionary AAPI advocates who hoped to not only improve the health of poor, limited English proficient and uninsured AAPIs who were overlooked by mainstream health programs and federal initiatives, but to create an organization that would advocate for that subset of safety net providers, Community Health Centers (CHCs), that serve them. These advocates found that while much was said about the health disparities of communities of color, AAPIs were omitted from those discussions due to misconceptions that the population was of higher socio-economic status and not affected by the diseases impacting other minority communities.

This group of individuals created AAPCHO to disprove these misconceptions and raise awareness of the many health disparities (e.g. tuberculosis, hepatitis B, and thalassemia) facing AAPIs and the many socio-economic myths that were held about this community. AAPIs did have notable uninsurance rates, many were not educated and armed with advanced degrees, English was not a first language for many individuals, and many were struggling to get by in extremely low-paying jobs. As a part of its charge, AAPCHO advocates on behalf of those health care providers that deliver health care to these individuals: CHCs, which provide services to all regardless of an individual's insurance status or ability to pay. In advocating for the CHC model, AAPCHO also advocates that AAPIs are best served by programs that are sensitive to the individual's culture and in the language spoken by these individuals.

Today, AAPCHO is comprised of 25 member community-based organizations, many of which are community health centers that provide comprehensive primary health care services in over 25 different languages to over 300,000 patients nationwide. AAPCHO's members are located in California, Hawaii, Washington, Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Massachusetts, Florida, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

AAPCHO's advocacy and programmatic efforts continue to support the original organizational goals and objectives set forth by its founders. AAPCHO's existing priorities center around increasing the availability of data and research on medically underserved AAPIs and community health centers; raising awareness about health disparities for AAPIs such as hepatitis B; assisting newer organizations in their efforts to provide health care services to AAPIs; and strengthening the capacity of existing AAPI-serving community health centers to continue providing quality care to this population. ■

For more information about AAPCHO, visit www.aapcho.org or call us at (510) 272-9536.

Getting to Know Our Partners

Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum (APIAHF)

Mona Bormet | APIAF

The Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, or “Health Forum,” is in its 22nd year of serving as a national advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AA and PI) communities through policy, programs, and research. Founded in 1986, APIAHF advocates on health issues that impact AA and PI communities, provides community-based technical assistance and training to address chronic diseases, HIV/AIDS, and domestic violence in AA and PI communities, and convenes regional and national conferences on AA and PI health.

Health care reform, or expanding access to health care for uninsured and underinsured Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, is one of five major policy priorities for the Health Forum. But, even with health coverage, disparities in health and health care persist in our communities. Some of the unique factors that make it difficult for Asian Americans (AAs) and Pacific Islanders to access quality health care are disparities in health coverage due to poverty and a significant percentage who work in or own small businesses as well as barriers due to language and culture. Among uninsured Asian American & NHPI subgroups, other Asian (58 percent) and Chinese Americans (55 percent) are most likely to not have visited the doctor in the past year. Liver cancer among AAPI men is 6 times higher for Chinese American men and breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among Chinese American women.

Some of our recent and ongoing work includes:

APA Heritage Month Activities

Since Congress has designated May as “APA Heritage Month,” the Health Forum attempts to draw attention to our communities in the halls of Congress. This past May, APIAHF in partnership with the Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO) hosted a health advocacy day. We identified key states and Congressional districts and invited AA & NHPI partners from those states to travel to DC to participate in training and advocate for their communities in Congress. APIAHF also hosted a Congressional briefing to draw attention to the glaring disparities in health care of the AA & PI communities.

Congressional Tri-Caucus Summit 2008

APIAHF was the lead sponsor for the Sixth Annual Congressional Tri-Caucus Minority Health Summit which brought together local communities, health experts, and policymakers to learn about regional and local experiences that could inform national health policies and programs. More than two hundred people attended the Summit, including members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC), to build consensus on policies that address health disparities, develop strategies for advocacy at the federal level, and engage communities of color in legislative action and outreach.

APIAHF

ASIAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER AMERICAN HEALTH FORUM

VOICES on the Hill and in the White House 2009

Our bi-annual conference, VOICES, will occur in mid-2009 to advance an AA and NHPI policy agenda with the new Administration and Congress through advocacy and action, increase visibility of AA and NHPI leadership, and to develop and promote leadership within AA and NHPI communities.

As a national advocacy organization, APIAHF continues to work with OCA and other partners to visit members of Congress to share the stories and data of the health care disparities facing our communities. We are excited to expand on our work; training partners and communities to advocate on the local, state and national levels and to continue our national advocacy efforts in the halls of Congress, via Administrative offices, and in the community at large. For more information about APIAHF, we invite you to visit our website at www.apiahf.org and encourage you to become advocates for your community! Please join our “Healthinfo” listserv for the latest on AA & NHPI health issues: http://apiahfelist.org/mailman/listinfo/healthinfo_apiahfelist.org.

We look forward to hearing from you! ■

Mona Bormet, Policy Analyst, has been with APIAHF since January 2007. To reach Mona, please email mbormet@apiahf.org

Invest in Our Future

The Internship Fund Needs You!

One of OCA's missions is to nurture youth leadership. Since the establishment of the Internship Program in 1988, the OCA Internship Program has become the largest of its kind.

Every summer, OCA places more than 20 interns in Congressional offices, federal agencies, non-profit organizations and the OCA National Center. Each year, we receive applications from motivated college students across the nation. In order to provide the "experience of a lifetime" for as many students as possible, it is imperative that OCA's Internship Fund is adequately funded. The goal of the Internship Fund is a formidable political network to make our presence known and our voice heard.

Past interns are already making an impact as OCA full-time staff, OCA Chapter Presidents, Members of OCA Executive Council, Civil Service Commissioner in San Francisco, Executive Director of Common Cause in California, and Executive Director of the Congressional APA Caucus.

To continue this commitment into the future, we need your generous donation—your investment in the future of our next generation and our community. During the last three years, OCA has focused fundraising efforts on the building campaign. We need to replenish the Internship Fund quickly to meet the demand of this summer and continue its legacy.

For a donation of \$4,000 or more, you can name the internship after your chapter, in memory of your loved one or anyone you wish. However, any amount is most welcome and equally important!

The following generous individuals and chapters, and companies have funded one or more interns:

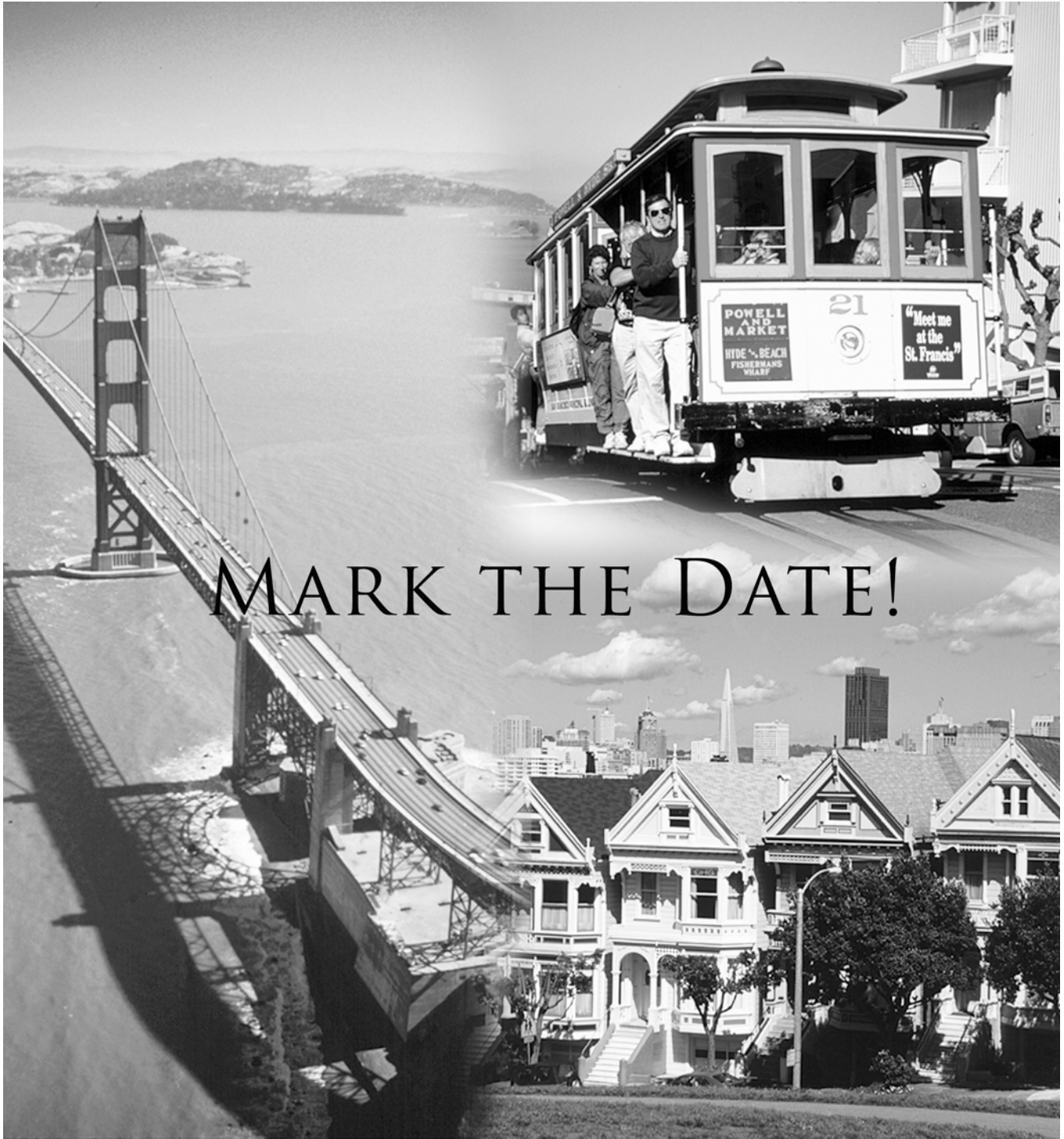
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We also would like to thank the following individuals and chapters for their vital support of the internship fund:

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Please make checks payable to OCA Internship Fund and send to
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For more information call 202 223 5500.



MARK THE DATE!

2009 OCA Annual National Convention

August 6-9, 2009

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San Francisco, California



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Please return this form to the address at the bottom and make your check payable to OCA.

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Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Are you a US Citizen? Yes No US Permanent Resident? Yes No

Spouse/Partner name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Email: _____

OCA Member-at-Large Dues Category (please check one):

\$10 Student \$40 Single \$50 Family

\$100 Century Club \$250 American Club

\$1,000 Lifetime Single \$1,500 Lifetime Family

I would like to join an OCA chapter in my area. Please send my contact information to the local chapter.

I am interested in starting an OCA chapter in my area. Please send me information.

Please send me information regarding: _____

For More Information:
OCA National Center

1322 18th St NW
Washington DC 20036

telephone 202 223 5500
fax 202 296 0540

email oca@ocanational.org
web www.ocanational.org

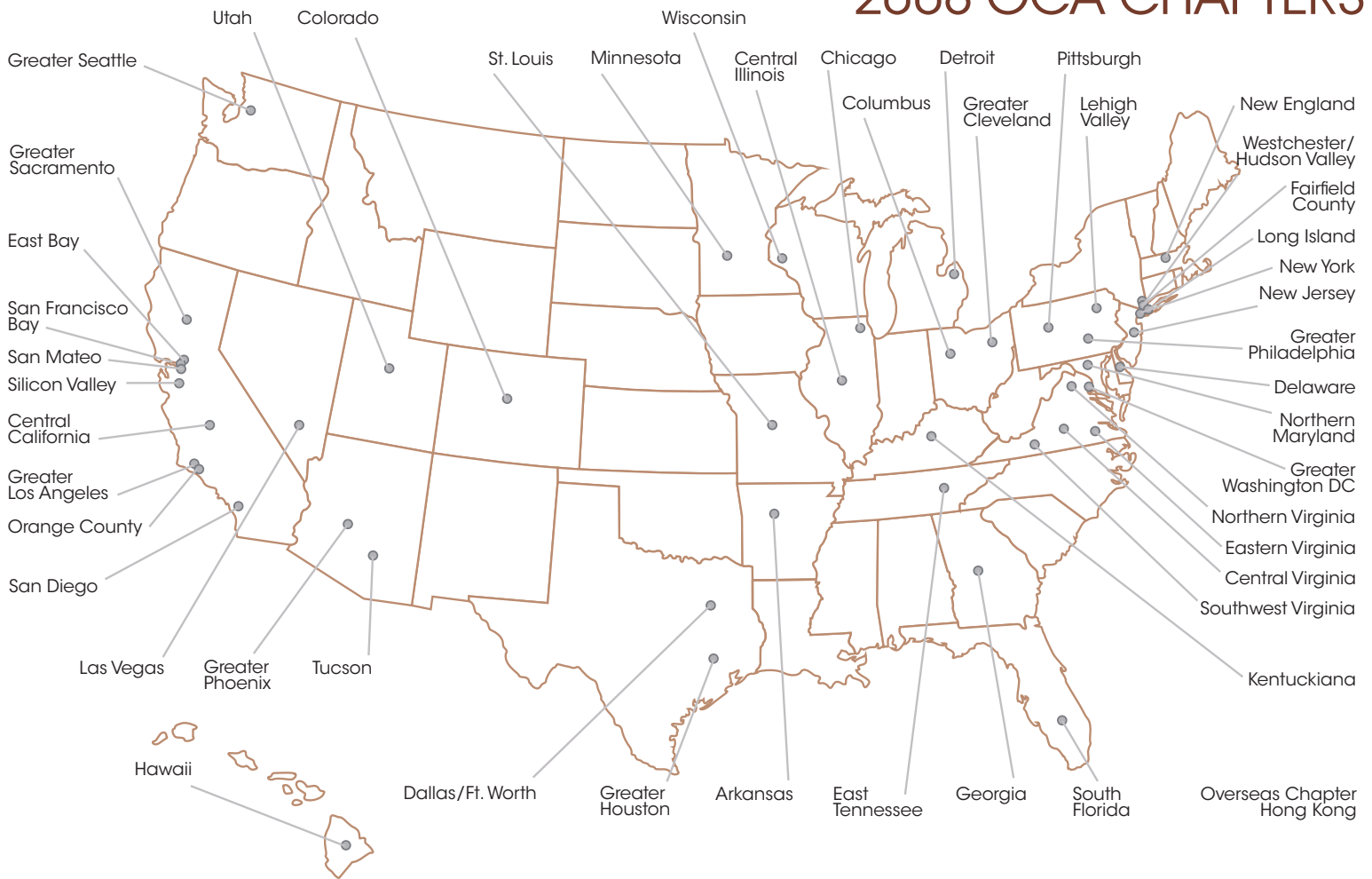


oca lifetime members

OCA would like to take this opportunity to highlight our Lifetime Members and salute them for their lifetime commitment and dedication to the organization. We apologize if we have inadvertently omitted anyone from this list. Please contact the OCA National Office at 202 223 5500 or oca@ocanational.org to provide any updates you may have.

Mary Au Greater Washington DC
Linda and Alan Bien San Mateo County
Jason Bobadilla Westchester/Hudson Valley
Janet Lew Carr Wisconsin
Charles W. and Alice Cha Greater Chicago
Flora and Shu-Wing Chan San Mateo County
Ann Elizabeth Chan and Howard Chan, Jr.
Long Island
Alice Chang Northern Virginia
Colin Chang Dallas/Ft. Worth
Stanley and Jean Chang Westchester/
Hudson Valley
Theresa Chang Greater Houston
Felix Chao Dallas/Ft. Worth
Andrew Chen Pittsburgh
Grace Chen Columbus
Jane Chen New Jersey
Claudine Cheng San Francisco Bay
Jessie Cheng Hawaii
Joe N. Chiu Dallas/Ft. Worth
Michelle Chiu Greater Los Angeles
Chi-Ming Chow Detroit
Gregory Christopher Detroit
Jaclyn Allison Chu Westchester/Hudson Valley
Thomas Eng Long Island
Frank C.S. Fang Eastern Virginia
Celine Foug Westchester/Hudson Valley
Rene Snuggs and Dean Francis Long Island
George Gee Greater Houston
Herbert H. and Virginia C. Gee San Francisco Bay
Ginny Gong Greater Washington DC
Hwa-Shan Ho Greater Houston
Johnny C. Hsu Colorado
Helen Y.H. Hui San Francisco Bay
Kenneth Hum Greater Washington DC
Jeanne Lee Jackson New York
Stanley Jsa Kentuckiana
Edward and Nancy Kang Long Island
William and Rose Tan Kaung Westchester/
Hudson Valley
William Kwan Dallas/Ft. Worth
Cassandra Kwoh Greater Los Angeles
Elaine Lai Westchester/Hudson Valley
Wai Ching Lam At Large
Albert Lau Long Island
Amy Ai Yu-Mei Lee San Francisco Bay
David S Lee At Large
Geoffrey Lee Lehigh Valley
Marjorie Lee At Large
Robert E. Lee San Francisco Bay
Songbae Lee Northern Virginia
Wen Ching Lee Greater Houston
David F. Lee III San Francisco Bay
C. Joanna Lei Westchester/Hudson Valley
Frances Leung Dallas/Ft. Worth
Patrick Leung Minnesota
Kai Tung Li Dallas/Ft. Worth
David T. Lin New Jersey
Michael C. Lin Greater Washington DC
Pearl Lin Fairfield County
Dominic Ling Greater Sacramento
Frank Liu Pittsburgh
Alex Mark At Large
Deborah F. Ching and and Mark M. Mayeda
Greater Los Angeles
George M. Ong San Francisco Bay
Sam Ong Greater Sacramento
Karl Frank Rosenberger Detroit
Paul Y. Sha Greater Houston
Betty Lee Sung New York
Alfonso and Lana Tan Long Island
Austin P. Tao St Louis
Peter To Westchester/Hudson Valley
Stanley F. Tseng Eastern Virginia
James Tso Northern Virginia
William C. Uy East Bay
K. L. Wang Greater Washington DC
Keith Wang New Jersey
Philip Wang San Mateo County
Stanley Wang San Mateo County
Claire Faith Weinan Detroit
Andrew K.C. Wong Long Island
Dai-Shan Wong Greater Houston
David Wong Long Island
Martha Wong Greater Houston
Raymond Wong Greater Houston
S.B. Woo Delaware
Clyde Wu Detroit
Moses and Margie Wu Detroit
Raymond Wu Columbus
Robert Wu Hong Kong
Chung Shu and Sue Pai Yang New Jersey
Victor Yau Westchester/Hudson Valley
Aiden Yee Detroit
Aiden Christopher Yee At Large
Jessie Lee Yip San Francisco Bay
Mary Ann Yu Westchester/Hudson Valley
Ai Zheu Xu and Qu Zhou Detroit

2008 OCA CHAPTERS



OCA National Center
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Washington DC 20036

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