

Oo Syak Gee Lu Society Newsletter

Founded December 1897 • Incorporated 1955



Board of Directors Meetings – Now OPEN



Upon revisiting the bylaws of the society, the Board of Directors have once again opened the quarterly BOD meetings, which were "closed" to the members in 2005.

A question about Article III of the objectives and purposes of the Oo Syak Gee Lu Society ("...to develop, promote and maintain harmony among members....") was brought up by Board Member Donna Chang.

A discussion followed as to whether future Quarterly BOD meetings should be open or closed to the general membership in order to reach the objective and purpose of the Society. A vote was taken by officers and BODs as to whether the quarterly Board of Directors meetings should be open or closed to members. The results were 7 to keep the meeting closed, and 9 to open the meeting, but subject to members understanding of their limitations (i.e. listening, no talking, no disturbances as the meeting progresses, and no voting power).

We are inviting members to once again join in on the Board of Director Meetings which begin promptly at 11:00am, and lunch is usually served around 12 noon. A free lunch is always served to participating members following the meeting.

Please see page 5 for dates and locations of future Board of Directors meetings. If you would like to attend the BOD meetings, please be prompt to ensure no disruptions once the meeting has begun. RSVP for meetings must be made by the dates provided on page 5 to Alvin Chang at 533-3762.

Scholarship Applications are now online....

Each year the society awards scholarships to members who are seeking higher education. Now in its ninth year, OSGL has given away 28 scholarships to 17 well deserved students.

This year is no different. The society will be giving \$1,000 scholarships to four students who are a pursuing higher education: 2-year or 4-year accredited college, trade school, technical school, or graduate school (excluding internships). Applicants must be members for at least six months prior to applying.

The 2007-08 Oo Syak Gee Lu Scholarship Application is now available online. Please visit our website and download the application from www.geocities.com/echang55.

Completed application forms with current high school or college transcript are due no later than Saturday, May 19, 2007. If you have any questions, please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714 after March 27th – when she returns from the China trip....

See page 3 for China Trip info....

Who's Who in Oo Syak Gee Lu Society

2007 Officers:

President	Kenneth K.C. Chang
1 st Vice Pres	Alvin G.K. Chang
2 nd Vice Pres	Duane K.F. Chang
Treasurer	Daryl H.K Hu
English Secretary	Constance K.H. Mark
Chinese Secretary	Donna N. Chang

2007 Board of Directors:

Mildred Ai-Chang	Paulette K.Q. Chang
Christine M. Chang	Roy K.S. Chang
Clayton K.L. Chang	Shirleen W.Y. Chang
Edmund W. K. Chang	Wah Jip Chang
Ellen M. Chang	Harold K. C. Hu
Maile K. Chang	Edith P.S. Won
Margaret M.H. Chang	Gertrude C. Yee



From L-R: Duane Chang, Donna Chang, Kenneth Chang, Alvin Chang, Daryl Hu. (Not present: Constance Mark)



From L-R (Row 1): Millie Ai-Chang, Harold Hu, Maile Chang, Margaret Chang, Ellen Chang, Edith Won, Roy Chang. (Row 2): Wah Jip Chang, Shirleen Chang, Christine Chang, Paulette Chang, Edmund Chang, Clayton Chang.

Members Corner

- **Walter Kuhnford Chang** – passed away January 30, 2007 at the age of 81. Born in Kekaha, Kauai, he retired from the Army Corps of Engineers as a budget analyst. He is survived by wife, Millie Chang; children, Aileen Brodeur, Calvin Chang, Karen Chang, Kathleen Patrocino and Stephen Chang; brother William Chang; sisters, Laura Lum and Shirley Chock.
- **Wah Jip Chang** – was re-elected as president for 2007 for the Mo Hock Ke Lock Bo Society, the founder of Mun Lun School. He will also remain as president for the Gook Doo Sam Heong Society.
- **Edith P.S. Won** – was re-elected as vice-president for the Mun Lun Alumni Association, and appointed as president trustee for the Chinese Catholic Club.
- **Gertrude C. Yee** – was elected as Director for the Chinese Catholic Club.



2007 Committees:

Budget & Assets Management Committee

Chairperson: Harold Hu
Clayton Chang, Wah Jip Chang, Daryl Hu

PR & Membership / Scholarship Committee

Chairperson: Jamie Chang
Mildred Ai-Chang, Ellen Chang, Edith Won

Banquets & Events Committee

Co-chairpersons: Constance Mark and Donna Chang
Margaret Chang, Paulette Chang, Shirleen Chang

Nominating Committee

Chairperson: Edmund Chang
Alvin Chang, Maile Chang

China Travel Committee

Co-chairpersons: Constance Mark and Jamie Chang
Donna Chang, Paulette Chang

Bylaws & Review Committee

Chairpersons: Duane Chang
Edmund Chang, Ellen Chang, Roy Chang, Gertrude Yee

Ancestral Roots Trip Abroad – China Trip



The time has already come for this long awaited trip. Our group is has now departed to our Mother Land. They left on Saturday, March 10th for Beijing, and will return home on Tuesday, March 27th after 18 days of travel.

There are 11 people who are traveling to Oo Syak Village and southern China. Nine of the 11 will also be going on the pre-tour with another group of 25 people to northern China. The places and sites that will be visited throughout the trip are Beijing, Xi'an, Shanghai, Suzhou, Guang Zhou, Zhong Shan (Oo Syak village), Zhuhai, Shenzhen, and Hong Kong.

We wish them all a safe and adventurous trip. Photos of the journey will be shared and published in the next issue of our newsletter. Stay tuned....

Public Service Summer Internships in Hawaii

The Hawaii Chapter for the Organization of Chinese Americans announces the OCA Hawaii/Jessie Cheng Public Service Internship Program during the summer for six weeks. Two internships are available at the Executive Offices of the Governor in Hawaii, or the Executive Offices for the Mayor of Honolulu. These internships are open to incoming second and third year college students from Hawaii and carries a stipend of \$1500 for each internship.

Applicants will require submission of official records of college grades (3.0 GPA minimum), two letters of recommendation, and an interview by the program review committee of the OCA-Hawaii Board.

Deadline to submit applications is March 30, 2007. Contact Susan C. Wong at (808) 732-0700 or Chu Lan Scubert-Kwock (808) 391-4350 for application forms or more information.

Xiè Xiè! (Thank you!)

We want to extend a big mahalo to George and Eldora Chang who donated orchid potted plants as centerpieces for the January 7th Installation Meeting at Hee Hing. These orchids were given away at each table.

George and Eldora have an orchid nursery in Makaha Valley.

Chinese New Year Parade

Chinese New Year was celebrated on February 19th this year. A parade was held on the eve of Chinese New Year through Chinatown down Hotel Street marking the beginning of the Year of the Boar. There were 23 Oo Syak members that marched and passed out our infamous OSGL red pencils to the children watching the parade.

There were many groups who participated, which included an appearance from Mayor Mufi Hanneman, the Miss Chinatown Queen and Court, and many other lion dance associations.

After the parade there were festivities all night along Maunakea Street selling traditional Chinese foods, lucky charms, and kungfu / martial arts and lion dance performances.



Oo Syak members getting ready to March, hanging out on the State Capitol grounds near Richards Street and Hotel Street.



Welcoming Out of Town Guests.... Giving Them A Warm Aloha!

A dinner was held in January at Mandalay Restaurant with Oo Syak Officers and the Board of Directors to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Hampson Lum from San Francisco, California during the brief stay in Hawaii for the annual Narcissus Festival Coronation Ball.

Mr. Hampson Lum is originally from Oo Syak, but moved to California at the age of 12. He is a past-President of the San Francisco Chinese Societies similar to Hawaii's United Chinese Society, and a Director of the Metropolitan Bank in Oakland, CA. He and his wife, Evangeline Lum, are avid and proficient ballroom dancers.

A few weeks later, OSGL Directors Ed and Ellen Chang had the opportunity to meet up with the Lums again in San Francisco where they attended the Gwen Society Chinese New Year banquet, and a personal tour of SF city!



Above: Guests of Honor, Mrs. Evangeline & Mr. Hampson Lum, of San Francisco, CA.



Far left: Guests of Honor: Dr. Homer H. Cheng and Joyce Chan.



Left: Dr. Homer Cheng and his niece Allynne Tom

Earlier this month, Oo Syak Officers and the Board of Directors hosted another dinner at Chin's Kahala for Dr. Homer H. Cheng M.D., M.S., F.C.A.P (Emeritus) while on vacation in Hawaii.

Dr. Homer Cheng delivered a PowerPoint presentation honoring his father, Dr. Holt A. Cheng – who moved from Oo Syak to Hilo, Hawaii when he was 8 years old to work for his uncle's business, and became the first Chinese San Francisco Medical School graduate. He also shared pictures of his visit to Oo Syak and Sam Heong.

Dr. Cheng currently resides in Orlando, Florida and San Francisco, California.

Mun Lun Chinese School – 100th Anniversary

Mun Lun School is currently looking for any information or pictures to put into their 100th Anniversary Yearbook scheduled to be published in 2011. If you or your family member have attended Mun Lun School, or have any pictures, annuals, or articles from Mun Lun School, please contact Edith Won at 373-2658.

Editor's Note:

I am so glad to be providing you with pertinent information about the Oo Syak Gee Lu Society for the past year. If you have feedback on the newsletter design, content, or style, I'd greatly appreciate your insight. Or if you have any news you would like to share about yourself or your family, please contact me at jmechang@yahoo.com or (808) 373-1714.

Jamie Chang

Annual Banquet

Our Annual Banquet will be held at Hee Hing Restaurant on Saturday, August 11th. The cost to members will be \$150.00 per table. Reservations will start being taken at the April 15th BOD meeting, with payment due 10 days later. No refunds will be given once payment is made. If you went to our banquet before, you know that you won't want to miss this!

On the menu are the following items:

- *Chicken Salad with Jellyfish*
- *Diced Wintermelon soup with 8 treasures*
- *Steamed Fresh Salmon with Black Bean Sauce*
- *Steamed Chicken with Ham and Greens*
- *Braised Shortribs with Taro*
- *Braised Black Mushroom on Choy Sum*
- *Lychee Pineapple Prawns (w/ sweet sour sauce)*
- *Dessert – Lychee Sherbert*

If you would like to reserve a table, and will not make it to the April 15th BOD Meeting, please call Connie Mark at 455-5221. Payments can be mailed to:

Connie Mark
2386 Auhuhu Street
Pearl City, HI 96782

Please make checks payable to "Oo Syak Gee Lu Society".

What is a "Dulcimer"?



Do you know what a "dulcimer" is? If not, you should go to the Hawaii Heritage Center before the end of April. The dulcimer is actually a Chinese butterfly harp.

The Hawaii Heritage Center has an exhibit of Chinese Butterfly Harps (Dulcimer) in Chinatown, showcasing butterfly harps built from 1915 to 2007 and will be on display until April 30, 2007.

Performances and demonstrations will be held on Saturday, March 10th and April 7th at 10:00am by Margaret Young Pang.

You can also learn how to play the dulcimer. Classes to learn to play the butterfly harp are held on Saturdays in 30 minute sessions between 10:00am – 12:00pm. The cost is \$10 per person, per session.

For more information, or to sign up for classes, call the Hawaii Heritage Center at (808) 521-2749.

Hawaii Heritage Center
1040 Smith Street (in Chinatown)

EXHIBIT HOURS:

Monday – Saturday • 9:00am – 2:00pm
(Closed State Holidays)

PERFORMANCE & DEMONSTRATIONS:

Saturday, March 10th and April 7th at 10:00am

Note Your Calendars!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location / Time</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Mar 10-27	Ancestral Roots China Trip	All over China and Oo Syak Village	(See page 3 for details)
April 15	Board of Director's Meeting	Chin's Kahala (mauka of Kahala Mall; Old Tony Roma's Restaurant / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 4/5
May 19	Scholarship Applications Due	(email or postal mail) *	Jamie Chang at 373-1714
July 15	Board of Directors Meeting	Hee Hing Restaurant (Kapahulu) / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 7/5
Aug 11	Annual Banquet	Hee Hing Restaurant (Kapahulu) / 5:30pm	Connie Mark beginning 4/15 (Phone: 455-5221)
Oct 21	Board of Director's Meeting	New Empress (Chinese Cultural Plaza, 2 nd floor) / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 10/11
Nov 18	General Membership Meeting	TBD	Alvin Chang by 11/8

To RSVP for meetings, call Alvin Chang at 533-3762 by the deadlines listed above beginning one month prior to the event.

* Scholarship applications are to be mailed to Ellen Chang at 95-122 Kahala Street, Mililani, HI 96789 or emailed to princess_pea47@yahoo.com. No hand-delivered applications will be accepted.



Moving??? If you are moving, or if your address has changed, please notify Jamie Chang at jmechang@yahoo.com or call 373-1714 so you can continue to be in the loop and receive newsletters and information about our Society.

In this Newsletter....	1
Board of Directors Meetings.....	1
Scholarship Applications.....	1
Who's Who in Oo Syak Gee Lu Society.....	2
Members Corner	2
Ancestral Roots Trip Abroad.....	3
Chinese New Year Parade.....	3
Public Service Summer Internships.....	3
Welcoming Out of Town Guests.....	4
Mun Lun Chinese School – 100 th Anniversary	4
Annual Banquet	5
What is a "Dulcimer".....	5
Note Your Calendars	5

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Jamie Chang
5355 Papai Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96821

Place
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Did you know????

Chinese New Year has passed. But that does not mean we need to stop the celebrations. Here are some upcoming significant Chinese dates to remember:

Lantern Festival – March 4, 2007

March 4th is considered to be Lantern Festival in China, falling on the last day of the Chinese New Year season. The Lantern Festival is traditionally a day for lovers – a second chance for a missed Valentine’s Day. Yuan xiao, or sticky rice dumplings with sesame paste in the center, are served at Lantern festival celebrations. (Date: fifteenth day of the first Chinese lunar month).

Ching Ming – The Tomb Sweeping Festival – April 5, 2007

Ching Ming (meaning “clear and bright”) is a time for families to honor the memory of their ancestors. Also known as “tomb sweeping” – removing debris, washing gravestones, and replacing dead flowers – family members offer gifts of food, fruit and wine to the departed. After a formal ceremony, the food is shared among family members. Another tradition is to burn incense to ward off any evil spirits that may be lurking.

In Hawaii, the Ching Ming Celebration is held every year on April 5th at Manoa Chinese Cemetery.

Kuan Yin’s Birthday – April 6, 2007

It is believed Kuan Yin to be a feminine deity – being the perfect loving mother and the embodiment of compassion, the Goddess of Mercy. Kuan Yin has the power to relieve suffering and bestow prosperity. Women having trouble conceiving pray to Kuan Yin for children. Kuan Yin is sometimes depicted as having one-thousand hands, each with an eye, enabling her to direct a compassionate gaze on all of the world's misery. (Date: nineteenth day of the second Chinese lunar month).