

Oo Syak Gee Lu Society Newsletter

Founded December 1897 • Incorporated 1955



Honorary Director Honored

In our November election meeting, members voted to award one Board of Director an Honorary Director award. An Honorary Director is a member who is recognized as a benefactor to the Society through outstanding services, such as serving as an officer or director. This award is the highest that the Society bestows. Nominations for Honorary Director are presented to the Board for consideration who may then elect the Honorary Director by a majority vote. This non-voting position award is presented for the life of the individual.

During our installation meeting in January at Hee Hing Restaurant in Kapahulu, we gave out our very first Honorary Director title to Wah Chock Chang. He was presented with a framed certificate by our President, Kenneth Chang.

Wah Chock was surprised, delighted, and very honored to receive such recognition from the Society. He has been our Chinese Secretary for many years, since signing with OSGL Charter of Incorporation with the Territory of Hawaii in 1955 and the Bylaws in 1956. Wah Chock's father is one of the original founder's of OSGL, and he tries to hold the same values for the Society as his father once did. He is now living at Palolo Chinese Home.



Wah Chock Chang receiving his certificate for Honorary Director 2007 by President Kenneth Chang.

FUN & GAMES

COUNTERTHINK

CONCEPT: MIKE ADAMS ART: DAN BERGER
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Think about it.... Have you ever heard this from your parents, or have you ever said this to your kids????

Who's Who in Oo Syak Gee Lu Society

2008 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



2008 Officers (from L-R): Alvin Chang, Kenneth Chang, Donna Chang, Daryl Hu, Duane Chang (Not pictured: Constance Mark)

2008 Board of Directors:

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

* Indicates new directors.

2008 Committees:

Financial 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

Banquet & Events Committee

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

Nominating Committee

Chairperson: Edmund Chang
Alvin Chang, Evelyn Chang, Maile Chang, Ethel Chow

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



2008 Board of Directors (Front Row L-R): Margaret Chang, Ellen Chang, Evelyn Chang, Harold Hu, Wah Chock Chang (Honorary Director). (Back Row L-R): Ethel Chow, Paulette Chang, Edmund Chang, Shirleen Chang, Clayton Chang, Wah Jip Chang, Edith Won, Roy Chang (Not pictured: Maile Chang)

Members Corner

- **Edith P.S. Won** – Former president and current director of OSGL, Edith has been very active in the local Chinese community. She was elected as vice-president of Mun Lun Association and as Director of Mo Hock Ke Lok Bo, founder of Mun Lun School for this upcoming year. She's also been appointed Trustee for the Chinese Catholic Club for 2007-08. Edith is also a charter member and secretary of the recently established Gook Doo Society. (For more information on the Gook Doo Society, please turn to page 3.)
- **Wah Jip Chang** – Elected as director of Mo Hok Ke Lok Bo, founder of Mun Lun School for this upcoming year. He is also the president of Sam Heong Temple in Hawaii.

If you have news you would like to share about a current member or yourself, please call Jamie Chang at (808) 373-1714 or email her at jmechang@yahoo.com.

Palolo Chinese Home Tour

Palolo Chinese Home is Hawaii's second oldest and largest adult residential care home. It was established in 1917, and is the oldest originally Asian care home in the United States. With an expanded care license granted in 2000, the Palolo Chinese Home now provides a continuum of care allowing its residents to age in place with assistance in living and intermediate/skilled nursing care. In the 1990's, the Home outreached to the community with its well-organized day care and overnight respite program.

For many years, OSGL has helped support Palolo Chinese Home by an annual contribution. This contribution enables the Home to continue planning and providing for the growing senior population so they can have a good quality of life. Having this Home is a great source of pride for our Chinese community.

We now have the opportunity to tour Palolo Chinese Home. On Saturday, April 19th, former President and Chairman of the Board of Directors at Palolo Chinese Home, Wesley Fong, has extended an invitation to Oo Syak Gee Lu members, family, and friends to tour their facilities. He will escort us throughout their current facilities and will give us an overview of their future plans. The tour should last about one hour.

If you are interested in attending this tour or would like more information, please contact Edith Won at 373-2658 by April 14th. Members, family, and friends are all invited. So spread the news to your friends and family, and invite them on this rare experience.

More information about Palolo Chinese Home's is available on their website at www.palolohome.org.



View of Palolo Chinese Home's campus looking Mauka and West. (Photo courtesy: Palolo Chinese Home website.)



OSGL's Honorary Director Wah Chock Chang is a resident of Palolo Chinese Home. Pictured with two workers from the Home. (Photo courtesy: Palolo Chinese Home website.)

PALOLO CHINESE HOME TOUR

- Place:** Palolo Chinese Home
2459 10th Avenue in Palolo Valley, Kaimuki
Administration Office – Lani Booth Building
*** Ample parking is available ***
- Date:** Saturday, April 19, 2008
- Time:** 10:00am (lasts about 1-hour)
- RSVP:** Call Edith Won at 373-2658 by April 14th



PALOLO CHINESE HOME

Board of Director's Meetings

Our quarterly Board of Director's meetings are open to all members. Please be reminded that these are conducted business meetings so noise should be kept at a minimum.

Lunch is always served to members who attend the meeting. Non-members are welcome to join us for lunch after the meeting at a cost of \$15 per person, and \$10 for children 3-10 years of age. *(These prices may be subject to change.)*

If you would like to attend the Board of Directors meetings, please be sure to RSVP at least 10 days prior to the meeting date. Meeting dates are listed in the "Note Your Calendars" section at the end of each newsletter.

Our next meeting will be held on Sunday, April 20th at On On McCully Restaurant at 11:00am. We hope to see you there!

Chinese New Year Parade



Getting ready to march.



Members sporting their OSGL shirts.



Marching down Hotel Street.

Gung Hee Fat Choy! We hope you all brought in the new year with good luck and a big bang! Chinatown sure did with their annual Chinese New Year parade from Richards Street to River Street along Hotel Street. A long procession of local societies, martial arts and kung fu clubs, and the Narcissus and Miss Chinatown Queens and Courts made their way along Hotel street celebrating this festive occasion.

It was a busy time for all Chinatown merchants who had a sidewalk street fair along Maunakea Street all day and night. People were able to get their favorite Chinese treats, Chinese good luck charms, and Year of the Rat t-shirts.

Members enjoyed themselves again, as it always seems like a big party for us all. Everyone was enthusiastic praying for good weather and passing out OSGL pencils to parade bystanders.



Mayor Mufi Hanneman posing for a cameo shot with the Narcissus Queen and Miss Chinatown 2008.

New Society: Gook Doo Tung Heong Hui

There is a new Chinese society in town. The Gook Doo Society was established on October 4, 2007 as a non-profit Chinese social and cultural organization to unite the Chinese from all the villages within Gook Doo. The Chinese name Gook Doo Tung Heong Hui translates this concept.

If your ancestors (on your paternal or maternal side) came from one of the villages in Gook Doo, you are eligible to join. Oo Syak is a village within this area, so all Oo Syak members are eligible to join, even those falling under the female lineage.

The goals of this organization are as follows: 1) To bring together individuals whose ancestors originated in the villages within the district of Gook Doo in Chung Shan (Zhong Shan) County, Kwangtung (Guangdong) Province, China for the purposes of fellowship and recreation, 2) to perpetuate our Chinese heritage dealing with the language, history, and cultural aspects of our forefathers, and 3) to promote fellowship and charity among members in the Chinese community.

A one time membership fee of \$10.00 per person, and annual dues of \$5.00 thereafter. If you are interested in joining this new society or have any questions, please contact Edith Won at 373-2658, or Douglas Chong at 262-0642.

10th Annual Scholarship Award Applications Available Online!



Each year for the past nine years, Oo Syak Gee Lu Society has awarded cash scholarships to its members who have decided to pursue a higher education after high school. So far, a total of 18 students have received \$27,500 collectively!

This year, in our 10th year, we will be giving away four \$1,000 cash scholarships to deserving student members who will be attending a two-year or four-year accredited college, trade school, or technical school on a full-time basis. Graduate, post-graduate school, and internships are excluded. Applicants must be members for at least six months before applying.

Scholarship awards will be based on scholastic achievement, extra-curricular activities, leadership, and community involvement, as well as communication, writing skills, presentation, and creativity.

Applications are available online for 2008-09 and can be downloaded from our website at www.geocities.com/echang55. Completed application forms with current high school or college transcript are due no later than Saturday, May 17, 2007.

If you have any questions, please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714, or email her at jmechang@yahoo.com.

Update Membership Records

We'd like to remind you that we need your help in keeping our membership records updated. This will help ensure our accuracy for membership, and we can be sure to deliver you important news and information about the society.

If you are moving, or have moved, please notify us so you can still receive our quarterly newsletters. Please also check with other friends or relatives who you know that are members.

Don't worry, your information is held for private use of the society and will not be released or sold to outside parties.

To make sure that your records are updated, please call our Membership Chairperson Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email her at jmechang@yahoo.com.

Note Your Calendars!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location / Time</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Mar/Apr	Scholarship Application available	Online at www.geocities.com/echang55	Jamie Chang at 373-1714
Apr 4	QING MING FESTIVAL	<i>(see back page for festival information)</i>	
Apr 19	Palolo Chinese Home Tour	Palolo Chinese Home - 2459 10 th Ave. (Palolo Valley) / 10:00am (1 hour long)	Edith Won at 373-2658 by 4/14
Apr 20	Board of Directors Meeting	On On Restaurant McCully / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 4/10
May 17	Scholarship Applications Due	(Email or postal mail)	Ellen Chang*
July 20	Board of Directors Meeting	Duk Yun Chinese Restaurant (Aina Haina Shopping Center) / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 7/10
Aug 23	Annual Banquet	Hee Hing Restaurant (Kapaehulu) / 5:30pm	Connie Mark at 455-5221 beginning 4/20 †
Oct 19	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD	Alvin Chang by 10/9
Nov 16	General Election Meeting	TBD	Alvin Chang by 11/6

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 Kahela Street, Mililani, HI 96789 or emailed to princess_pea475@yahoo.com. No hand-delivered applications will be accepted.

† Annual Banquet reservations will not be accepted before 4/20.



Jamie Chang
5355 Papai Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96821

Place
Stamp
Here

March 2008

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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.*



清明節

Qing Ming Jié



Qing Ming, also known as “Clear and Bright Festival”, or “Tomb Sweeping Day”, is a custom that can be traced back to more than 1,000 years ago. It is a day to remember and honor our ancestors at their grave sites. On this day, usually April 5th (this year April 4th), families of young and old sweep the tombstones and offer food, tea, wine, spirit money, and other accessories to their ancestors in their afterlife.

Today, *Qing Ming* lasts the entire month of April, allowing families to get together to visit their ancestor's gravesite. Families prepare an altar at the gravesite arranged with five cups of tea, liquor, rice, and five pairs of chopsticks. For smaller ceremonies, three cups are sufficient. Fish, chicken, and pork are the main courses of offerings, with stewed oysters, tofu, shrimp, mushrooms, duck eggs, roast pork and roast duck. Each food has a particular meaning from good blessings to wealth and sacrifice for our ancestors. Incense and candles are lighted at each headstone. Chopsticks with brown resin tips are thrust into the ground to the right of the incense and candles as memorial markers, denoting that the gravesite has been visited by filial descendants paying their respects. Burning incense with the food offerings expedite the transfer of nutritious elements to our ancestors.

Once the altar has been set, the oldest member of the family kow-tows first and bows three times (representing happiness, prosperity, and longevity). He is then followed by the oldest son, families, grandsons, and male descendants first, and then females, each bowing reverently three times. Spirit money, or *gum ngun*, is then offered and burned, and firecrackers are exploded to conclude the ritual. The food is usually brought home and consumed by the family, as it is considered to be blessed by the gods.

It is also believed that placing willow branches on home gates and/or front doors, and carrying it to the gravesite will help ward off evil ghosts that wander close by.