

Oo Syak Gee Lu Society Newsletter

Founded December 1897 • Incorporated 1955



Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Happy Holidays to all our members! With our stormy weather and power outages, we're still not even close to getting a white Christmas in Hawaii. We hope that you are all safe and your homes were not too damaged from the winds and rain.

It's been an exciting year for us. From the China trip to local parades and gatherings, this past year has quickly gone by, just like the weather. But where has all the time gone?

Our President Kenneth Chang sums up our year in his message and annual report to members on page 3. You can also turn to page 7 for a recap of all our events and activities this past year.

In the meantime, get your shopping done, bake those cookies and fruit cakes, decorate your Christmas tree, and mail out those Christmas cards. That should keep you busy enough.



Christmas Luncheon Recap

A couple weeks ago we all gathered together for our annual Christmas Luncheon at New Empress Restaurant in the Chinese Cultural Plaza. With a full course lunch menu, we were all stuffed.

There were door prizes, delicious food, fun, and good company.... What more could you have asked for this holiday season?

There were 17 tables filled with members, friends, family, and guests. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, especially when past president, Edith Won, took the stage for some Chinese entertainment. After the party, someone suggested it be printed in the newsletter. So if you missed it, here were her jokes (see below). The source of origin is not known.

LEARN "PIDGIN CHINESE" IN FOUR MINUTES

That's not right.	Sum Ting Wong
Are you harboring a fugitive?	Hu Yu Hai Ding?
See me ASAP.	Kum Hia Nao
Small horse.	Tai Ni Po Ni
Did you go to the beach?	Wai Yu So Tan?
I bumped into a coffee table.	Ai Bang Mai Ni
I think you need a face lift.	Chin Tu Fat
It's very dark in here.	Wai So Dim
I thought you were on a diet.	Wai Yu Mun Ching
This is a tow away zone.	No Pah King
Staying out of sight.	Lei Ying Lo
He is cleaning his automobile.	Wah Shing Ka
Our meeting is scheduled for next week.	Wai Yu Kum Nao



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

2007 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, Jocelyn Chang-Chuck, 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, 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

Members Corner

- **Raymond Chung Fong Chang** – Recently passed away at the age of 77 on December 18, 2007 of heart trouble. He was the brother of Gilbert Pat Tate Chang.
- **Julie Ann Wai Lan Chang** – Julie Ann was crowned Mrs. Hawaii United States 2007 in May at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. She represented the state of Hawaii at the national Mrs. United States pageant in Las Vegas in July where she won the Audience Choice Award. While there, she attended to several contestants who suffered from the intense heat, including the executive director and owner of the pageant. Julie has recently opened her practice in Hawaii as a pulmonary and critical care physician at Kapiolani Medical Center in Pali Momi. She is the daughter of Dr. Hing Chang, Jr. and Dr. Lorene Anastasi Chang. Julie was also a past recipient of the Oo Syak Gee Lu Scholarship award in 1999.



From L-R: Mother Dr. Lorene Anastasi, daughter Leah, Dr. Julie Chang, and father Dr. Hing Chang Jr.

New Members:

- **Charmaine B. Chang** – Wife of Eric Wing Tate Chang. Eric and Charmaine recently moved back to Hawaii with their family in November after living in the Philippines for one year.
- **Carmina Erika B. Chang** – Daughter of Eric Wing Tate Chang and Charmaine B. Chang. Granddaughter of Gilbert P.T. and Loretta H. Chang.

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.



President's Message



The year 2007 is rapidly nearing its end, and so is the Year of the Boar. As President, here is my report to the membership of our activities this past year:

Oo Syak Kee Lu Society is a solvent organization which is why we can offer many benefits to our members. The Officers and the BOD voted to re-open the quarterly meetings to the membership by a 9-7 vote, and members started to come to our meetings followed by a full luncheon. We also subsidize 50% of members' costs at our Annual Banquet, and have a free Christmas Luncheon for all our members.

One of our biggest and most exciting events happened in March, where 11 members of the society toured China and the Sam Heong/Oo Syak area to find their ancestral roots. They were royally received and treated in their hometown, and they brought to China warm Hawaiian greetings.

Oo Syak entertained a total of three out of state delegations. Early in the year, we were visited by Hampson and Evangeline Lum of San Francisco, CA. Hampson was born in Oo Syak Village and is a bank director. He graciously gave the society a \$200.00 li see. Following their visit, Dr. and Mrs. Homer H. Cheng of Orlando, FL and San Francisco, CA came to Hawaii. Dr. Cheng's father came from Oo Syak, and spent time on the Big Island before moving to California, where he became the first Chinese person to earn a M.D. degree in California and the U.S. Finally, in June, a 29-member delegation from Sam Heong/Oo Syak honored us with their presence on their return from the mainland U.S. on their way back to China. We hosted the new County Governor Zheng Jiawing, Vice Governor Zheng Sheweng, and Oo Syak Party Secretary Rong Shanneng with our Hawaiian hospitality and tried to reciprocate the generosities given to our group in China.

Throughout our meetings some questions were raised by Director Edith Won, who reported three questions from an anonymous member(s):

1. Who gets invited to a dinner honoring out-of-town guests?
2. Who should be invited to the Scholarship Dinner?
3. Why doesn't the Society have an annual budget?

After some discussion, at the October 21, 2007 BOD meeting, it was decided that:

1. The President shall decide who should be invited to a dinner for out-of-town guests with a limit of one table for Oo Syak members.
2. The Scholarship Dinner is for scholarship recipients, their parents, and paternal grandparents. Officers, BODs, Scholarship Committee members, judges and their spouses were invited. Next year, we will open the dinner up to members who would like to attend, but must RSVP and pay for the cost of the dinner.
3. Daryl Hu, our CPA treasurer, convinced the BOD that since we have a positive cash flow we don't need a annual budget; otherwise we would be dragging our BOD meeting to a two or more hour meeting.

A special Bylaws Committee was activated under Director Duane Chang to review our bylaws. At the General Membership meeting on November 18, 2007, all the bylaw recommendations were approved by the membership (see page 5). Our annual election re-elected the same officers; except we have two new Directors: Evelyn Chang and Ethel Chow. Welcome aboard.

Finally, the Officers and Directors wish all the Oo Syak Gee Lu members and family a blessed and joyous Christmas and a happy, healthy, and prosperous 2008!

Kenneth K. C. Chang



Chinese New Year – Gung Hee Fat Choy!

Chinese New Year falls on February 7, 2008. While the Americans celebrate Christmas and New Years with Santa Claus and fireworks over the course of one week, the Chinese celebrate their lunar New Year in as long as one month (from the middle of the last month of the previous year to the middle of the first month of the new year). Chinese families spend many days preparing for the big event by cleaning the house, buying gifts, and cooking festive foods. Here are some ways they prepare, and so can you, to prepare for the upcoming Chinese New Year.

1. Clean your house.

Before the new year arrives to sweep away all the bad luck that may have accumulated over the past year.



Left: Chinese papercuts originating in the Han Dynasty.

2. Decorate your doors and window frames.

Hang red papercuts on your doors and windows. The red color symbolizes good luck. Papercuts date back to the Han Dynasty as an ancient Chinese art form.



3. Offer sacrifice to the Kitchen God.

Many people hang a poster of the Kitchen God in the kitchen. The Kitchen God is superstitiously known to report on the family's behavior when he returns to Heaven. Offerings usually include sticky rice cake, or *nian gao*, and children offer him honey.



Wrapped Chinese dumplings, jiaozi.

4. Prepare Chinese dumplings, or *jiao zi*.

The Chinese Kitchen God.
It is a tradition where Chinese families gather around the table together making *jiao zi* on New Year's Eve before the year ends. The *jiaozi* is usually pan fried or boiled.

5. Give *lisees*.

Money packets wrapped in red envelopes and decorated with gold are given to children.



Red lisee envelopes.

Chinese New Year Foods

We all like to eat, and we all like Chinese food. Chinese people like to celebrate with festive foods around holidays. Here are some traditional foods prepared for Chinese New Year and their underlying meanings. You can now cook a feast for your family for good luck this upcoming year.



Noodles = Long life

Fish = Wish and abundance

Spring Rolls = Wealth (resemblance to gold bars)

Clams = Wealth (resemblance to bouillon)

Lettuce Wrap = Chinese phonetically sounds like "rising fortune"

Pomelo "Bu-look" (Grapefruit) = Chinese phonetically sounds like "to have"

Tangerines / Oranges = Luck and wealth

Sticky rice cakes "Nian gao" = Sweet, rich life (round = family / reunion)





Election Meeting Results

Last month we had our General Membership and Election meeting. There was an election of new officers and Board of Directors, and five bylaw proposals changes. There were 47 eligible voters (members of good standing for at least three months and at least 18 years of age) in attendance. The bylaw proposals have all been passed by two-thirds vote, and reads as follows:

Article VI, Section 3. Vice Presidents. Vice-presidents shall support the President in maintaining order in the meeting and assure that members remain on topic.

Article VII, Section 1. Board of Directors. The Immediate Past president shall be an ex-officio voting Director and shall hold office until the expiration of the current President's term.

Article VII, Section 7. (added) Honorary Director. An Honorary Director is a member who has been 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. An Officer or Director shall make nominations for Honorary Director. An application, verbal or written, must be 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. There shall be no more than one award per year.

Article VII, Section 8. (added) Attendance. Any Officer or Director who has an unreported absence from two Board of Directors meeting in a calendar year can not be nominated for any office of the Society for the following year.

Article XI, Section 1. Standing Committees. Changes names. a) change Budget and Assets Management to read "Financial Committee", b) delete the word "welfare" to read "Public Relations and Membership Committee", c) delete the word "annual" to read "Banquets and Events Committee".

We have incumbent officers serving us for another year, and two new Board of Directors joining us. Our two new board members are Evelyn Y. Chang and Ethel Chang Chock. We like to thank Christine M. Chang who resigned as a Director, and Gertrude C. Yee for their years serving on the Board.

The 2008 Officers and Board of Directors will be sworn into office at our ***installation meeting*** which will be held on ***Sunday, January 6, 2008*** at 11:00am at Hee Hing Restaurant in Kapahulu. All members are invited. Please contact Alvin Chang at 533-3762 by December 27th to RSVP.

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 Douglas Chong at 262-0642.



Double Ten Parade

In October, the Oo Syak Gee Lu Society participated in the Double Ten parade at the Chinese Cultural Plaza, celebrating the National Day of the Republic of China (now present day Taiwan).

Before the parade began, there were 20 minutes of entertainment by a local Taiwanese group who performed aboriginal Taiwanese dances. We then paraded around the block and passed out our OSGL red pencils to bystanders. The parade ended by presenting a lei to the Dr. Sun Yet Sen statue in its temporary location on the 3rd floor.

After the parade, we enjoyed a luncheon at the New Empress Restaurant.

For more photos, please visit our website at <http://www.geocities.com/echang55/dblten07.html>.



Taiwanese aboriginal dancing entertainment.



Members before the parade in the Chinese Cultural Plaza.



More members gathering before the parade.

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.

President and Chairman of the Board of Directors at Palolo Chinese Home, Wesley Fong, has extended an invitation to Oo Syak Gee Lu members to tour their facilities. They are very appreciative for our annual contributions, which helps with their daily operational needs. There are three plaques listing the names of their contributors displayed on site – Oo Syak is listed.

If you are interested in attending this tour or would like more information, please contact Edith Won at 373-2658. The tour would most likely be planned for April or May 2008. More information will be posted in the next newsletter. You can also get more information by visiting Palolo Chinese Home's website at www.palolohome.org.



2007 Year in Review

Every year, the Oo Syak Ge Lu Society puts on exciting events and activities for all its members. What have we done this year? Do you remember some of the activities we had? We've had a lot of participation this year! Here's a recap of all the activities we've done. You can reminisce on the events you participated in, or see what you missed out on.

January

- Installation of 2007 Board of Directors and Officers sworn in by the Honorable Herbert Shimabukuro at Hee Hing Restaurant in Kapahulu.
- Guests and OSGL members from the mainland Hampson Lum and Dr. Homer Cheng visit to Hawaii.

February

- Chinese New Year Parade on Hotel Street.

March



- China Trip: Eleven people traveled to China, from Beijing to Hong Kong on an 18-day tour with a stop in our ancestral hometown called Oo Syak.

June

- Delegation of 29 people from Zhongshan visits Hawaii.



July

- Scholarship Awards Dinner
Winners: Morgen Lai On Chang, John William Kwan Mung Chang, Roy Nicholas Kwan Wo Chang, Victoria Mei Ling Chang

August

- Congress of Chinese Societies United Picnic at Kapiolani Park.
- Annual Banquet at Hee Hing with guest entertainment by comedian Frank Delima.

October

- Double Ten Parade around Chinese Cultural Plaza.

November

- Elections for 2008 Board of Directors and Officers, and changes to bylaws.

December

- Christmas Luncheon at New Empress Restaurant.



Note Your Calendars!

Date	Event	Location / Time	Contact
Jan 6	Installation Meeting	Hee Hing Restaurant (Kapahulu) / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 12/27
Jan 20	Board of Directors Meeting	Golden Palace Restaurant (Chinatown, King Street) / 11:00am	Alvin Chang by 1/10
Feb 7	CHINESE NEW YEAR		
Mar/Apr	Scholarship Application available	Online at www.geocities.com/echang55	Jamie Chang at 373-1714
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*

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.



Jamie Chang
5355 Papai Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96821

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December 2007

Vol. X, No. 4

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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.

Welcome, Year of the (Earth) Rat

This upcoming Chinese New Year falls on February 7, 2008 celebrating the Year of the Earth Rat. It is the year 4706 in the Chinese calendar. Those born in the Year of the Rat are respected and considered to be a courageous and enterprising person. It is a privilege to be associated with people born in this year.

Rats are generally known to be smart, magnetic, well-liked, affable, quick-witted, surreptitious, selfish, protective, and calculating. They know where to find solutions and can take care of themselves and others without problems. Rats are very lively and need a lot of mental and physical stimulation.

They can be calm and perceptive, but sometimes their brains can cause a mental restlessness, tempting them to take on too much. They don't mind a lot of responsibility and they demonstrate a strong presence that other people respect. For those with the Rat nature, status and monetary satisfaction are the greatest motivation.

The Earth Rat is born in 1948 and 2008. They add solidity to the Rat's personality and are likely to establish roots early on to make a secure future for themselves and their family. Earth Rats are honorable and love to be stabilized. Acquiring a slow and steady wealth gives them an inner peace. Although they are capable of being stingy with their finances, they do possess warm feelings for their family and friends.

Occupations that are best suited for Rats are writers, broadcasters, actors, advisors, counselors, lawyers, politicians, designers, engineers, managers, directors, administrators, entrepreneurs, musicians, stand-up comedians, researchers, historians, and racecar drivers.

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新年快樂