

Oo Syak Gee Lu Society Newsletter

Founded December 1897 • Incorporated 1955



New Website Address for Oo Syak Gee Lu Society!!!



*Our webmaster,
Edmund Chang*

For about seven years, Oo Syak Gee Lu has a website where we provide information and about the society.

If you haven't noticed, we've recently have changed our web address, making it easier to remember.

It is www.oosyakgeelu.com. If you are tech savvy and use the computer, please visit our website often for updated information and events. Our webmaster Edmund Chang has done a fabulous job maintaining the site, adding links to the local Chinese communities, and uploading photos and this newsletter each quarter. There is also a history page where you can discover how Oo Syak Gee Lu became a society and what its original purpose for establishing itself was. You can also see past events such as parades and scholarship recipients.

Ed can also be contacted at change55@hawaii.rr.com for suggestions or comments about the website. Thank you Ed for your awesome work!



2010-11 Scholarships Available Online

Are you a high school senior or college student in need of some extra money for tuition or books? Well, just be glad that you are a member of Oo Syak Gee Lu Society!

For the past 12 years, OSGL has been awarding scholarships to members through its scholarship program. So far, we've given away \$35,500 to 21 student members.

To qualify for our scholarships, you must be an OSGL member for at least six months and 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.

Scholarship awards are judged by an outside panel (non-affiliated with OSGL) based on criteria in the areas of scholastic achievement, extra-curricular activities, leadership, and community involvement, as well as communication, writing skills, presentation, and creativity.

If you are interested in applying for our scholarship, please go to our website at www.oosyakgeelu.com and download the 2010-11 Scholarship Application Form. Should you have any questions, please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email her at jmechang@yahoo.com.



Who's Who in Oo Syak Gee Lu Society

2010 Officers:

President	Alvin G.K. Chang
1 st Vice Pres	Jamie M.Y. Chang
2 nd Vice Pres	Donna N. Chang
Treasurer	Daryl H.K. Hu
English Secretary	Constance K.H. Mark
Chinese Secretary	Ethel Chang Chow
Ex-Past President	Kenneth K.C. Chang

2010 Board of Directors:

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

Honorary Directors:

2008 Maile K. Chang
2007 Wah Chock Chang

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. This non-voting position award is presented for the life of the individual.

2010 Committees:

Financial Committee

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

PR & Membership / Scholarship Committee

Chairperson: Jamie Chang
Mildred Ai-Chang, Donna Chang, Edmund Chang,
Ellen Chang, Hubert Chang, Edith Won

Banquet & Events Committee

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

Nominating Committee

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

Editor's Note:

I am always looking for new ideas on how to improve our newsletter, or any information we can share about our members. We have a special Members Corner where I post news or updates about any OSGL member (i.e. winning awards, promotion at work, loss of a loved one, etc.)

If you have a special recipe, a favorite Chinese restaurant, or an interesting story, I'll be glad to include it in our newsletter if space permits. You can send information and/or pictures to:

Jamie Chang
5355 Papai Street, Honolulu, HI 96821
(808) 373-1714 • jmechang@yahoo.com

Don't forget, if you are moving, or if your address has changed, please let me know so you can continue to receive our newsletters. I don't want you to miss out on any of our cool events.

OSGL Still Going "Green"

Thank you to all of you who have already signed up to "Go Green". You are not only eco-conscious, but you are helping the society save money one penny at a time.

It's easy to sign up. Just send an email to Jamie Chang at jmechang@yahoo.com, with "**OSGL EMAIL**" in the subject line. If you have already signed up to go green, and are still receiving "snail-mailed" newsletters, please send another email. It may not have gone through, or may have been overlooked.

Please also be sure to keep your contact information updated with your mailing address, phone number, and email address. Just call our Membership Chairperson Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email her at jmechang@yahoo.com.



Qing Ming at Manoa Chinese Cemetery

Qing Ming literally means “clear and bright”, and it is also referred to as tomb sweeping day. The origin of Qing Ming dates back to more than 2500 years ago.

Each year, beginning April 5th, when the weather begins to turn nice, the Chinese community pay respects to their ancestors by cleaning their gravesites of weeds and debris from the harsh winter weathers. Families honor their ancestors with rich foods, drinks, incense, firecrackers, and specially folded gold and silver paper to symbolize money for the afterlife.

Qing Ming is not only dedicated to one day. The entire month of April is dedicated to pay respects. You will probably see many local families throughout the month at cemeteries across the state.

The United Chinese Society has been sponsoring the local annual Qing Ming event at Manoa Chinese Cemetery for eight years. The ceremony will begin at 9:00am on Tuesday, April 6, 2010 with traditional food and monetary grave offerings. Following the ceremony, a box lunch will be provided to attendees.

Each year, OSGL donates money to support our local Qing Ming event which honors our ancestors and past relatives in Honolulu. We encourage you all to attend and support our local Chinese community and pay homage to our ancestors at this important event.



Qing Ming altar of incense.

QING MING

Date: Tuesday, April 6, 2010
Time: 9:00am
Place: Manoa Chinese Cemetery
3430 East Manoa Rd.
For more information, call 536-4621

For more information about the event, please contact Henry Le at the United Chinese Society at 536-4621.

Looking for New Members

Oo Syak Gee Lu Society is always looking for new members. Anyone who is a descendant of male lineage from Oo Syak Village, Guang Dong Province, China and who is of good moral character is eligible for membership to the Oo Syak Gee Lu Society. There is a one-time lifetime membership fee of only \$25.

As a member, you can attend the many functions we have at little or no cost at all. Two of our biggest functions are the Annual Banquet (August) and the Christmas Party (December). Throughout



the year, we also participate in Chinese parades, picnics, and social gatherings where lunch is usually provided free to members. We also have a scholarship program for members that will help student’s aid for financial assistance (see page 1).

If you know of anyone who meets the qualifications of becoming a member, let them know about us. You may also sign up your children and/or grandchildren. Membership applications can be downloaded from our website at www.oosyakgeelu.com or contact Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or jmechang@yahoo.com.

PHOTO GALLERY

Merry Christmas Luncheon

December 5, 2009 – New Empress Restaurant

It seems like so long ago.... Our annual Christmas Luncheon was held at New Empress Restaurant in the private banquet room. We had 16 tables filled with members, families, and friends. The menu included dim sum platters first, then platters of beef and vegetables, shoyu chicken, chow mein, gin dui, and cake from Anna Hu in appreciation of the li see given from Oo Syak for her hospitalization. Door prizes were again given to lucky ticket holders. Shirleen Chang was the party's emcee .



*(Above): OSGL members, families, and friends gathered at New Empress Restaurant.
(Left): Emcee Shirleen Chang pulling and announcing lucky numbers.*

New Officers and Directors Sworn into Office

January 10, 2010 – Hee Hing Restaurant

It's a new year with a semi-new slate of officers. Alvin Chang and Donna Chang is serving their second term as our President and 2nd Vice President, respectively. Last year's Chinese Secretary Jamie Chang filled the vacant seat of 1st Vice President, and Ethel Chang Chow replaced Jamie's seat of Chinese Secretary. Connie Mark and Daryl Hu remained in their long-time seats of English Secretary and Treasurer.

Continuing Board of Directors are Millie Ai-Chang, Clayton Chang, Edmund Chang, Ellen Chang, Evelyn Chang, Margaret Chang, Paulette Chang, Roy Chang, Wah Jip Chang, Jocelyn Chang-Chuck, Harold Hu, and Edith Won. Congratulations to all the Officers and Board of Directors!



(From L-R): Edith Won, Harold Hu, Alvin Chang, Roy Chang, Maile Chang, Ethel Chock, Evelyn Chang, Jamie Chang, Millie Ai-Chang, Wah Chock Chang, Ellen Chang, Margaret Chang, Clayton Chang, Connie Mark, Edmund Chang, Jocelyn Chang-Chuck, Darryll Hu.

All officers and board members were sworn into office by Honorable Herbert Shimabukuro, followed by a luncheon.

Updated officer pictures are posted on our website at www.oosyakgeelu.com.



The Honorable Herbert Shimabukuro and his wife.

PHOTO GALLERY

Night in Chinatown Parade

February 6, 2010 – Honolulu Chinatown

Gung Hee Fat Choy!!!! This year we celebrated Chinese New Year on the same day as Valentine’s Day, February 14, 2010, and Honolulu Chinatown was the place to be. The annual Night in Chinatown festivities presented by the Chinatown Merchants Association in conjunction with the City and County of Honolulu were held one week prior on February 6th.

Along with other Chinese societies, lion dance and martial arts groups, and the 2010 Narcissus Queen and Court, Oo Syak Gee Lu participated in parade along Hotel Street (from Richards Street to River Street). We were decorated with our new fashionable OSGL hats (it was very hard not to miss us), and entertained the crowd with Chinese lion puppets, Chinese toy drums, and tambourines. We also passed out our memorable OSGL pencils to parade spectators.

These parades are a time where the society shows presence and support for our local Chinese community. This is one of the largest Chinese events held in Hawaii to celebrate the new year.

After the parade, about 30 OSGL member participants enjoyed a full 7-course dinner at Won Kee Restaurant. There was an all-day/night block party on Maunakea Street and at the Chinese Cultural Plaza featuring food, martial arts, crafts, good luck trinkets, lion dances, fireworks, and other entertainment.

For more parade pictures, please visit our website at www.oosyakgeelu.com.



OSGL members gathered at the State Capitol.



Marching down Hotel Street just after Nuuanu Ave.



(Left): Donna Chang and Edith Won with Chinese lion puppets. (Center): Ernest Chang passing out OSGL pencils to parade spectators. (Right): The entire group at the end of the parade with the Narcissus Queen and Court.

Annual Banquet Coming Soon!



Hee Hing Restaurant on Kapahulu Ave.

OSGL ANNUAL BANQUET

Date: Saturday, August 14, 2010
 Time: 5:30pm
 Place: Hee Hing Restaurant
 RSVP: Connie Mark, beginning April 18th

It's approaching.... The Oo Syak Gee Lu Annual Banquet! This year, our banquet will be held on August 14, 2010 at Hee Hing Restaurant.

Every year, our banquet sells out quickly! The Society subsidizes 50% of the cost of tables for members. What a deal!!!! There have been times when we had to turn people away, so be sure to make your reservations early!!!!

Reservations will be taken beginning April 18th at our quarterly Board of Directors meeting by Connie Mark, and will not be confirmed until payment is received.

For more information about menu or other banquet details, please attend the April BOD meeting, or you can wait for the next edition of the newsletter coming out in June.

2010 Model Chinese Mother and Father of the Year



The United Chinese Society is looking for the Model Chinese Mother and Father of the Year.

The purpose of this annual project is to honor and give community-wide recognition to a Chinese Mother and Father, who

by their dedication, hard work, and integrity have reared a successful family, as evidenced by the character and accomplishments of their children.

The application deadline is April 9, 2010. All applicants are judged by a panel of leading citizens. Winners will be honored at the United Chinese Society annual banquet.

Please call Henry Lee at the United Chinese Society at (808) 536-4621 for more information or for an application.

Dr. Sun Yet Sen Memorial Ceremony



Dr. Sun Yet Sen (photo courtesy of <http://www.notablebiographies.com/St-Tr/Sun-Yat-Sen.html>)

On Friday, March 12, 2010 at 10:00am, a memorial ceremony will be held in honor of Dr. Sun Yet Sen. The ceremony will be at the Chinese Cultural Plaza Mall on River street, at the Dr. Sun Yet Sen statue.

Dr. Sun Yet Sen was a pioneer in Hawaii, and a leader in Chinese revolution. He attended Iolani School and Oahu College (formerly Punahou School) before returning to China. He traveled back to Hawaii, and is known as the "Father of Chinese Revolution".

OSGL will be attending and presenting a lei at this event. If you are interested in attending, please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email her at jmechang@yahoo.com by March 10th.

DR. SUN YET SEN MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Date: Friday, March 12, 2010
 Time: 10:00am
 Place: Chinese Cultural Plaza Mall on River Street, next to the Dr. Sun Yet Sen statue
 RSVP: Jamie Chang 373-1714 or jmechang@yahoo.com

Board of Director's Meetings



Oo Syak Gee Lu holds quarterly Board of Directors and Officers meetings in January, April, July, and October. These meetings are held to

discuss issues and events pertaining to the Society and the local Chinese community.

All members are invited to sit in and listen to items being discussed. However, this is just a reminder that these BOD meetings are business meetings, so noise should be kept to a minimum.

Lunch is usually served after the meeting is adjourned, and is free to members who attend. Guests will be charged a fee of \$15 to pay for their lunch.

Our next BOD meeting will be held on Sunday, April 18th at On On Chinese Restaurant in McCully. The meeting will begin promptly at 10:30am. It is a little earlier than our usual start time, so please be on time.

To RSVP for our BOD meetings please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email jmechang@yahoo.com no earlier than one month prior to the meeting date.

Revisit to China Roots



Almost three years ago, the OSGL China Trip committee coordinated a trip to China to revisit our ancestral roots. A total of 11 people (members, families, and friends) participated in the China 18-day tour during spring 2007.

We visited many places such as Beijing, Shanghai, Xi'an, Suzhou, Hong Kong, and Oo Syak village in Sam Heong Province (Guangzhou, aka Canton). We had a warm welcome in Oo Syak from the dignitaries and government officials. They were singing praises of our homecoming to our ancestors. We also got the chance to go shopping and see the famous sights of our Motherland country.

There have been more inquiries since we returned from our trip if we will make a second trip back. This is a great chance to revisit your ancestral roots or see how much the village has changed over the years of modernization. If you have some interest in going to China and visiting Oo Syak village, please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email jmechang@yahoo.com. If there is enough interest from our members, we will be glad to plan another trip in the near future

Note Your Calendars!

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location / Time</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Mar/Apr	Scholarship Applications	Available online	Jamie Chang †
Apr 18	Board of Directors Meeting	On On McCully / 10:30am	Jamie Chang by 4/8*
May 15	Scholarship Application Due	Postal mail or email	Hubert Chang †
Jun 19-20	Dragon Boat Races	Ala Moana Beach Park / TBD	TBD
July 10	Scholarship Dinner	Mandalay Restaurant / 5:30pm	Jamie Chang by 6/30
July 18	Board of Directors Meeting	Golden Palace Restaurant / TBD	Jamie Chang by 7/8*
Aug 14	Annual Banquet	Hee Hing Restaurant / 5:30pm	Connie Mark **
Oct 17	Board of Directors Meeting	TBD / TBD	Jamie Chang by 10/7*
Nov 14	General Membership Meeting	TBD / TBD	Jamie Chang by 11/4*

* To RSVP for Board of Directors meetings, please call Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or email jmechang@yahoo.com by the deadlines listed above beginning one month prior to the event.

** Annual Banquet Information: Call Connie Mark at 455-5221 email connie.mark@gmail.com after 4/18/10.

† Scholarship information: For questions, contact Jamie Chang at 373-1714 or jmechang@yahoo.com. Applications to be sent to Hubert Chang at 744 20th Ave., Honolulu, HI 96816 or changp005@hawaii.rr.com.



Jamie Chang
5355 Papai Street
Honolulu Hawaii 96821

Place
Stamp
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March 2010

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Useless Fun Facts about China....

- Ice cream was invented in China around 2000BC when the Chinese packed a soft milk and rice mixture in the snow.
- China is the fourth largest country in the world. China is sometimes a day ahead of the United States.
- The Chinese year is based on the cycles of the moon. This is called a lunar schedule. A complete cycle of the Chinese calendar takes 60 years. The Chinese calendar dates back to 2600 B.C. It is the oldest known calendar.
- When a Chinese child loses a baby tooth, it doesn't get tucked under the pillow for the tooth fairy. If the child loses an upper tooth, the child's parents plant the tooth in the ground, so the new tooth will grow in straight and healthy. Parents toss a lost bottom tooth up to the rooftops, so that the new tooth will grow upwards, too.
- It is considered good luck for the gate to a house to face south.
- We know that the Chinese grew rice as long as 5000 BC. Archaeologists have found rice grains in farming tools and pots from that period.
- Long ago, silk making was a closely guarded secret. Anyone who gave the secret away could be killed.
- At one time, Chinese patriots hoped to rid themselves of hated foreign conquerors. To announce the time of an uprising, the patriots hid messages in moon cakes.
- Red is considered a lucky color in China. At one time wedding dresses were red. New Year's banners, clothing, and lucky money envelopes are still red.

Source: http://www.tooter4kids.com/china/fun_facts_about_china.htm