



COLORADO SPRINGS
CHINESE CULTURAL
INSTITUTE

茶葉香談

TEA LEAVES

SUMMER 2007

WWW.CSCCI.ORG



Photos courtesy of Blue Fox Photography

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CHINESE PROVERB

"A great fire may follow a tiny spark"

FENG SHUI TIP

Avoid having mountains, hills or big buildings positioned directly in front of you, as it symbolizes confronting the mountain and blocks positive energy.

Chinese New Year Brings International Culture

The Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute sponsored its seventh Chinese New Year and Asian Festival on Saturday, February 3, 2007, at the Phil Long Expo Center in Colorado Springs. It has grown to become the largest international cultural event in the community, exposing thousands to the customs and tastes of China and its Asian neighbors.

Doors opened at 11:00 a.m. and the fun continued until 6:00 p.m. The vendors in China Town offered merchandise from China and other places, travel opportunities to China, acupuncture and photography services, banks, and much more.

A Taste of China and A Taste of Asia featured a variety of Chinese and Asian cuisines from local restaurants. Guests enjoyed the offerings as they took a break from the other activities.

New films on China and Asia were featured in the Cinema Theaters, and special live presentations on The Year of the Pig enlightened groups throughout the afternoon. The Tea House again offered selections of tea. Fun activities were presented throughout the afternoon for youngsters and adults. Calligraphy, mahjong, go, tea ceremonies and other activities delighted participants and onlookers alike.

The two stage shows played to standing-room-only crowds, offering music, dance, martial arts and other Asian-themed acts.

CSCCI is proud to share this important cultural experience with the greater Colorado Springs community and looks forward to the annual event's continued growth. We also thank our sponsors – Ent Federal Credit Union, Mountain View Bank, Premier Bank, El Pomar Foundation, and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Kansas City, plus our media sponsors, News First 5 and 30, Clear Channel, and *The Gazette*. ●

A Letter from our Chairwoman

MALI HSU, *Founder and Chairwoman*

DEAR READERS,

Since 2001, the Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute has steadily increased its activities and ambitions. The number of volunteers has increased, and the Board of Directors now stands at 12 members.

Tea Leaves has been an important tool for the organization to connect with members and readers interested in Chinese culture. I would like to personally thank Mr. Jeff Basset, the newsletter's outgoing editor, for his efforts and contributions toward creating an enjoyable learning experience.

I am especially grateful to our outgoing President, Ms. Chiu-Fen Buczynski. She has added tremendous value to the organization through her tireless efforts, as well as her many organizational and musical talents.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to new Board member Mr. Herman Tiemens II, who also assumes the role of Editor-In-Chief for this newsletter.

Herman, whose wife is from Singapore, has a strong marketing and finance background with experience in marketing to China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. Herman is currently a financial advisor with the world's largest private bank.

I am also very pleased to welcome Mr. Seiko Tran to the Board. Seiko has a strong sales and marketing background and will take a leadership role in helping the CSCCI increase sponsorship and advertising involvement within the business community. Seiko currently works at *The Gazette* as a sales executive.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the volunteers, the Board of Directors, Advisory Board members and officers – past and present – who have contributed to the Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute over the years.

I feel very fortunate to have such a wonderful group of volunteers working together. Our mission is to reach as many people as possible and help them learn about and celebrate Chinese culture. ●



Celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month in May

WALLY G. ASTOR, PH.D.,

Vice President of Education, Colorado Technical University

May is the month for national recognition of the achievements of Asian/Pacific Americans and their contributions to our country. In 1978, Congress established the first 10 days of May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week. This “week” coincided with two anniversaries. May 7, 1843, marked the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants; the transcontinental railroad was completed, with the help of many Chinese immigrants, on May 10, 1869. This “week” was extended into a month-long observance by Congress in 1990. No matter what the official length is, May is the month to honor our nation’s 14 million Americans of Asian, Pacific Islander, and native Hawaiian heritage.

Since May 1990, when President George H. W. Bush made this a month-long celebration, each succeeding president has issued a proclamation for Asian /Pacific American Heritage Month. The month also allows us to recognize the many accomplishments of Asian Americans throughout our history.

For example, Ellison Onizuka was the first Asian-American astronaut in 1985. Ellison died in the 1986 Challenger disaster. Connie Chung was an award-winning network news reporter. Haing Ngor won the Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor in 1984 for his role in *The Killing Fields*. Young Oak Kim, 100th Infantry Battalion, was the first Asian-American to command a combat battalion in 1943. Hiram Fong became the first Asian-American senator in 1959. Norman Mineta was the first Asian-American member of the presidential cabinet. He was secretary of commerce and later secretary of transportation. Elaine Chao was the first female Asian-American cabinet member in 2001 – and she still holds that position. Amy Tan and Colorado Springs’ own Gus Lee are two of the nation’s leading contemporary authors.

It is now difficult to find any area that does not have prominent Asian-Americans, Pacific Islanders or native Hawaiians – especially in the area of professional sports. Tiger Wood, Michelle Kwan, Paul Kariya, Dat Nguyen, Roman Gabriel or the approximately 30 Samoan football players in the National Football League. Please join the Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute in celebrating the inclusiveness, diversity and rich cultural heritage of all Asian-Americans, Pacific Islanders and native Hawaiians. ●

ANNOUNCEMENTS

YOUNG MUSICIANS WANTED

The Asian Pacific Development Center is seeking talented musicians from the Asian American/Pacific Islander Community of Colorado. APDC, in partnership with the Colorado Symphony Orchestra, is pleased to announce “Emerging Musicians in the Asian American/Pacific Island Community of Colorado.” If you are a musician under the age of 25, APDC invites you to audition to play in the waiting area before CSO concert events. For detailed information and an application form, please go to www.apdc.org.

ALL ABOARD FOR CHINA!

CSCCI is planning its second trip to China in October. We’re already building our second group of 20 participants, and the RSVP deadline is July 15, so be sure to act fast to get in on the fun! The trip, which will take us to historic and cultural sites throughout China from October 13 through October 28, includes meals, accommodations and travel. We’ll also have an interpreter and tour guides with us throughout the trip.

Don’t miss out! Contact Mali Hsu at 287-7624 for more information.

A Letter from the Editor

HERMAN TIEMENS II, Editor-in-Chief

Last summer, my family spent a few days in Hong Kong after visiting my wife’s family in Singapore. It was my 6-year-old son’s first visit to China and, almost immediately, he turned to us and said, “Is this really China?” We said, “Yes.” He responded, “Then where are all the toys?”

The China Century has arrived. The country has transformed since economic reforms began in the late 1970s. Many years of compounded growth at staggering rates have elevated China to the status of the world’s third largest economy behind the U.S. and Japan.

Last year China recognized its fifth anniversary of membership in the World Trade Organization. This year, the country will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty.

Next summer all eyes will focus on Beijing as it hosts the 2008 Summer Olympics. China’s estimated Olympic-related spending of \$35 billion will make up more than 43 percent of the total spent for all the games since Montreal in 1976.

Taiwan – one of East Asia’s original economic “tigers” – has developed into a thriving, prosperous multiparty democracy. While relations with Beijing have remained prickly, pragmatism has largely prevailed.

As the new Editor-in-Chief for *Tea Leaves*, I am excited to support the CSCCI’s mission. I have been fortunate to gain exposure to Chinese culture in both my personal and professional lives. It has been an enriching experience for me and I look forward to doing my part to connect others in the community with China’s fascinating culture.

I would like to express my personal gratitude to SGDP, a design firm based in Chicago, for accepting CSCCI as a pro bono client. They have applied their considerable talents to an exciting refresh of the organization’s identity and newsletter layout. Thanks also to *The Gazette*, which has signed on as our new production sponsor, enabling us to increase print quality and begin delivering this newsletter to you in vibrant color for the first time! ●

Treasures Performances Capture Community

A week after the annual Chinese New Year and Asian Festival celebration at the Phil Long Expo Center, CSCCI produced a wonderful evening of stage performances at the Pikes Peak Center entitled "Asian Treasures." Arranged personally by CSCCI President Chiu-Fen Buczinski, this event offered exposure to Chinese and Asian performances and a workshop about Chinese instruments.

World-class performers delighted the audience with acts including an orchestra performing indigenous music of the island of Bali, Chinese folk dances, the popular Taiko Drum ensemble and more.

Fourteen-year-old contortionist Dulguun Tumurbat amazed the audience with her graceful performance. She has been performing for seven years and trained in the Mongolian State Circus. She has participated and won competitions in France, Russia, Germany, Korea, China and other countries.

This first-time event was an exceptional addition to the community's cultural opportunities and received many accolades. Prior to the performance, CSCCI hosted an appreciation reception for the following generous sponsors and partners: Bee Vradenburg Foundation; Holme Roberts & Owen LLP, Attorneys at Law; World Arena Youth and Community Services Foundation; Ent Federal Credit Union; Cost Plus World Market; Wells Music; PF Chang's; Graham Advertising; and COPY IT! Printers. Following CSCCI's presentation of thank-you plaques, Chiu-Fen entertained the group with a short piano recital.

Based on this year's success, CSCCI plans to continue to offer this event to the community. ●

STEAMED FISH

by Tracy Jaw

- Salmon: 12-ounce fillet
- Salt: 1 tsp
- Ginger root: 2 TBS, slivered
- Green onions: 2 TBS, slivered
- Cilantro: a few pieces
- Soy sauce: 2 TBS
- Sesame oil: 2 TBS
- Vegetable oil: 2 TBS

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 15 minutes

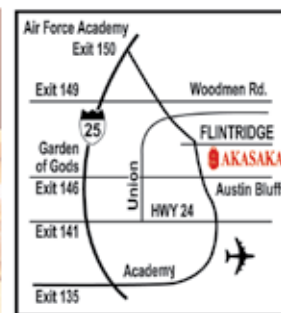
- 1 Rinse salmon fillet, pat dry with paper towel and place on a plate.
- 2 Sprinkle salt evenly on salmon fillet; cover salmon with ginger and half of the green onion.
- 3 Cover fish with plastic wrap and place in a steamer.
- 4 Steam fish for approximately 15 minutes. Salmon is cooked when color changes to light pink.
- 5 In a separate saucepan, combine the vegetable oil, sesame oil and soy sauce. Heat over medium heat (do not boil).
- 6 Remove cooked fish out of the steamer.
- 7 Sprinkle the cilantro and the green onion on the fish and drizzle with the hot soy sauce mixture.
- 8 Serve immediately.



AKASAKA

Japanese Restaurant

SUSHI / SASHIMI / TEMPURA / SHABU SHABU



4737 N. Academy Blvd. TEL 719) 272-7301
Colorado Springs CO 80918

GIFT CARDS / SUSHI PLATTER

LUNCH: Mon - Sat 11:00 am - 2:30
DINNER: Sun - Thur 5:00 - 9:00 / Fri - Sat 5:00 - 10:00



Become a member

We hope you will join Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute. To become a member, please print your information and send us this form along with a check or money order to:

COLORADO SPRINGS CHINESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE
PO BOX 2625
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80901-2625

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

E-mail _____

- Annual Membership
- _____ Student \$10
 - _____ Individual \$15
 - _____ Family \$25
 - _____ Business/Organization \$100
 - _____ Silver Patron \$150
 - _____ Gold Patron \$250
 - _____ Platinum Patron \$500





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www.sgdp.com



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CALENDAR

MAY

Asian/Pacific American
Heritage Month

JULY

7
10th Anniversary of Hong Kong
handover to China

8, 13, 15, 20, 26, 28

World premiere of the opera
"Poet Li Bai" (*performed in Chinese
with English supertitles*) at Central
City Opera, Central City, CO

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Colorado Springs Chinese
Cultural Institute (CSCCI)
Dinner at Jade Dragon Chinese Restau-
rant, 3958 North Academy. Members:
\$20, Non-members: \$25.
Please RSVP by sending checks to:
CSCCI, PO Box 2625,
Colorado Springs, CO 80901

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CSCCI China Trip Orientation
City Hall, Colorado Springs, CO

28, 29

Colorado Dragon Boat
Festival Sloan's Lake Park,
Denver, CO

AUGUST

11

Korean Independence Day
Celebration at Memorial Park, Spon-
sored by Korean-American Society of
Southern Colorado

18

Multicultural Fair sponsored
by Diversity Forum, Downtown
Colorado Springs, CO

18, 19

Boulder Asian Cultural Festival
and Film Festival at Pearl Street Mall,
Boulder, CO