

Gulfcoast Chinese-American Association (GCAA) Newsletter

March-April Issue 2007 (release date March 2, 2007)

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Please note: if you feel you should be on our email list and for some reason are not receiving this newsletter and other GCAA notices, please help us amend our database by sending an email to elin@ingenious.com with copy to Dr. Henry Zhu at hexiangzhu@hotmail.com and Helen Pollak at hwpollak@comcast.net. Thank you.

To unsubscribe, see instructions at end of newsletter.

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The GCAA Newsletter is sponsored in part by

J&K Kitchen & Bath, 4141 Tamiami Trail S.

Sarasota, FL 34231 Phone: (941) 922-6981 Mobile: 646-831-8181

The new owners, Mr. KongBiao Ni and Ms. JinXing Yang, will start their business in the first week of January 2007 (store phone expect to be in service on or after 1/4/07) and warmly welcomes **GCAA members and friends with a 20% discount.** If you are planning a remodeling or building a custom home, put J&K to work for you. They are also hiring sales staff. If you are a good salesperson and have computer skills, please call Ms. Yang as soon as possible.

GCAA extends a hearty welcome to Mr. Ni and Ms. Yang and wishes them success.

1. URGENT NOTICES: =====

Daylight Savings Time is moved 4 weeks ahead starting March 2007. Turn your clock ahead by an hour when you go to bed on Saturday March 10.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT =====

Dear members and friends of GCAA,

On behalf of your officers, Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and volunteers, we wish everyone good health and much happiness in this year of the Golden Pig.

To help you start your New Year right, we offer three things with this issue of the Newsletter:

- 1) The attached "10-90 Rule" (with Chinese Translations) from Dr. Steven Covey. This is provided courtesy of Mrs. Sophia Fong
- 2) Instructions for Life in the new millennium" from the Dalai Lama. (達賴喇嘛的千禧年人生箴言, and
- 3) An invitation to listen to a amazing, heart-warming, and hopefully inspiring story about my American Odyssey. It may change your life with a new positive can-do outlook. Please see upcoming events (below) for details.

GCAA, Inc., held its first official annual membership meeting during the Chinese New year Festivities on February 18, 2007 at the Grace United Methodist Church in Venice. It was a fun filled event with many excellent performances and entertainment and well over 100 free prizes awarded by raffle. The performances were followed by a sumptuous dinner at Marco Polo, including stir-fried fresh blue crabs and steamed flounder! We are indebted to Dr. Xueji zhang, our VP of Programs, and our programs co-chairs, Valentina Pippin and Cheyenne Wu, Drs. Kevin Hu and Henry Zhu, and the dedicated volunteers who worked hard to make this most enjoyable event become reality.

At the annual meeting, the members voted unanimously to approve a slate of 8 Board of Directors who will guide the future direction of GCAA and appoint suitable officers. The 8 Board members, in alphabetical order are:

1. Dr. Carolyn Bloomer
3. Dr. Hammond Chen
4. Mrs. May Jang
5. Dr. Edward Lin
5. Mrs. Valentina Pippin
5. Mrs. Helen Pollak
6. Dr. Frank Shao, and
7. Dr. Xueji Zhang

At the annual meeting, the Association presented GCAA Pioneer Awards to;

Dr. Hammond Chen, Honorary Chairman and founder of our Association,

Dr. Frank Shao, first and past president of our Association, and

Dr. Edward Lin, current President.

Outstanding GCAA Community Service Awards were also given to the following GCAA members for their invaluable volunteerism and contributions:

Dr. Carolyn Bloomer

Nancy Cao, CPA

Dr. Jonathon Fong and Mrs. Sophia Fong

Dr. Kevin Hu and Zhang Rui

Mrs. May Jang

Ms. Tracey La

Mr. Liu Yong and Mrs. Dong Mei

Mrs. Valentina and Mr. Lee Pippin

Mr and Mrs. Alan & Helen Pollak

Mr. and Mrs. Greg and Marti Rudick,

Mrs. Laurie St. Denis

Mrs. May Thomas

Dr. Clare Hue-Min Wen

Dr. Henry Zhu and Tan Wen,

Cheyenne Wu and Ian Kempner

Ms. Yang Lin

Mr & Mrs. Jinbo and Kitty Yin

Mr. Barry Zhang and YE Lin, and

Dr. Xueji Zhang and LIN Jieh

It is with regret that I report that Dr. Kevin Hu, has tendered his resignation as a VP of GCAA. Over the past three years, since the inception of our Chinese community (which initially did not have a formal name and later evolved to become Gulfcoast Chinese Association and last year became officially incorporated as the Gulfcoast Chinese American Association, Inc.), Dr. Hu has volunteered his time and expertise to support and help our association grow. We are thankful to Dr. Hu for all his past contribution and look forward to his continued support and guidance.

I am saddened to report the passing of one of our elders, Mr. Thomas Chang on Nov. 28th here in Sarasota. He suffered a brain hemorrhage. Mr. Chang is a retired engineer from New Mexico. Many will remember him as one of the three elder gentlemen, along with Dr. Hammond Chen and Mr. Raymond Wu who entertained us with trivia games on stage during CNY06.

On behalf of GCAA, we extend our condolences to Mrs. Rose Chang, and hope that fond memories and peace will help to ease her immeasurable loss. They are in our thoughts.

Lastly, I extend a most cordial invitation to all of you to my talk, "My American Odyssey" this Sunday, March 4 at the Faith church auditorium. Please see Upcoming Events and Attactions (below) for details.

Best wishes,

Ed

Dr. Edward Lin

President, GCAA

Encourage Inspire Empower

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world" Mahatma Gandhi

Here are some "Instructions for Life in the new millennium" purportedly from the Dalai Lama (達賴喇嘛的千禧年人生箴言)

1. Take into account that great love and great achievements involve great risk.
(要記住，大愛與大成就必定也帶著極大的冒險。)
2. When you lose, don't lose the lesson.
(當你輸掉了什麼，千萬不可也輸掉了教訓。)
3. Follow the three Rs: Respect for self , Respect for others, and responsibility for all your actions.
(謹遵「3R」原則：尊重 (respect) 自己、尊重 (respect) 別人、對自己的行為負責 (responsible)。)
4. Remember that not getting what you want is sometimes a wonderful stroke of luck.
(要記住，得不到自己想要的，有時候未嘗不是一種幸運的事。)
5. Learn the rules so you know how to break them properly.
(要學習規則，這樣才知道如何巧妙適當地打破規則。)
6. Don't let a little dispute injure a great friendship.
(不可以讓一個小口角傷害一段偉大的友誼。)
7. When you realize you've made a mistake, take immediate steps to correct it.
(一旦發現犯了錯，一定要立刻更正它。)
8. Spend some time alone every day.
(每天花一點時間獨處。)
9. Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values.
(展開雙臂放開心胸去改變，但千萬不要放掉了你的價值觀。)
10. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
(謹記住有時候沈默是最好的答案。)

11. Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll be able to enjoy it a second time.

(過著一個美好端正的生活。這樣當年華老去再回首時，你將會可以再度享受如此的美好。)

12. A loving atmosphere in your home is the foundation for your life.

(家庭裡的溫馨氣氛是人生的礎石。)

13. In disagreements with loved ones, deal only with the current situation. Don't bring up the past.

(當跟所愛的人有爭執時，就事論事，千萬不要翻舊帳。)

14. Share your knowledge. It's a way to achieve immortality.

(分享你的所知，這將是達到永生不死的方式之一。)

15. Be gentle with the earth.

(要好好對待地球。)

16. Once a year, go someplace you've never been before.

(一年總得找一次去你未曾去過的地方。)

17. Remember that the best relationship is one in which your love for each other exceeds your need for each other.

(最好的相處關係是你愛別人的程度，大於你需要別人的程度。)

18. Judge your success by what you had to give up in order to get it.

(怎樣才稱為成功？端看你放棄多少達到這個目標。)

19. Approach love and cooking with reckless abandon.

(唯有「愛」及「烹飪美食」才能無節制地享受。)

GCAA acknowledges with sincere thanks the generous support and sponsorship of the Marco Polo Restaurant in our annual CNY and MAF festivities.

The Marco Polo International Buffet & Grill is located at 549 US Highway 41 Bypass North, Venice, FL 34292 in Bird Bay Plaza (near Big Lots), just south of the bifurcation of Business 41. Tel: 941-412-3988. When you visit the restaurant for their wide selection of seafood (including crawdad, oyster and crab) and Chinese, Mongolian, Japanese and Italian food, please say hello to the owners: Mr. & Mrs. Lau and let them know GCAA appreciates their support.

3. Who to contact about what within GCAA =====

Matters relating to GCAA Programs:

Dr. Xueji Zhang zxj001us@yahoo.com 941- 926-3273

Valentina Pippin mvpc@comcast.net

Cheyenne Wu cheyenne@theblueexchange.com (941) 921-4205

Matters relating to membership and how to join

Dr. Henry Zhu hexiangzhu@hotmail.com (941) 758-2051

Matters relating to monthly socials

Helen Pollak hwpollak@comcast.net (941) 929-9266

GCAA website

WebMaster: Barry Zhang bzhang@wenbosystems.com

Asst WebMaster: Troy Lim troyhlim@gmail.com

Asst. WebMaster Becky Culp becky@pelicani.com

Asst. WebMaster John Zhu juntaozhu15@yahoo.com

Sarasota Chinese Academy [Chinese Language School]

Principal: Jinbo Ying (best_ck9103@yahoo.com) (941) 966-4355.

Other issues:

Dr. Edward Lin elin@ingenious.com (941) 966-0890

4. Programs Committee Report =====

by Valentina Pippin

What a party! Members of GCAA gathered on February 18 at Grace United Methodist Church in Venice to celebrate the year of the Boar. This particular golden boar comes only once every 600 years. On one bright sunny and brisk day everyone came to share friendships and have some fun. Friends, family, colleagues and loved ones enjoyed fabulous performances on stage. First up was the Sarasota Chinese Academy under the able leadership of Mrs. Aizhuang Lu. The wee ones and the not-so-wee ones adoringly showed off their singing talents and their take-two head turning traditional Chinese dress. Then Master Tang and his martial arts performers from Bradenton dazzled everyone with the must-have Lion dance. Adults and kids, all wide-eyed enjoyed a pair of prancing and dancing 'lions'. Jami Lu, a gifted pianist played two classical pieces beautifully on the key board. We had so much classical talent in the group that we had to show off our very own John Zhu and his interpretation of a Chinese piece on the clarinet. Not to be outdone by young musicians, we were serenaded by seasoned talents, Drs Rong Wang and Frank Shao whose songs touched our hearts.

And the dances! Who could forget Keegan & Karyssa Wong, two accomplished young dancers fresh from competition raced straight from Orlando to Venice. Parents Mr. and Mrs. Wong from Wong Kai Imports mentioned that it was a privilege for their kids to dance and perform for the GCAA. Actually, the privilege is all ours. And of course, Cheyenne Wu and Ian Kempner! Who knew? Well, now we all do. These two could really swing! We save the best for last. Rene Ng and his martial arts students demonstrated various martial arts styles. With Rene, it is not enough to just entertain. He is the consummate sensei. The audience attentively listened to his apt and relevant instructions and demonstrations.

Most of us did not go home empty handed either. Volunteers, Suzanna Lin, Xueji Zhang, May Jang and Cheyenne Wu and others magically came up with over a hundred prizes (from laptop school bags to telescopes, restaurant gift cards to cook books and knives) and surprises. We had a raffle and trivia Q and A. Winners went home with fun prizes. All this activity left everyone hungry and off we all went to Marco Polo for a much deserved Chinese Buffet. With such a spread, no one left hungry.

GCAA would like to acknowledge the following: Xueji Zhang, Sophia and Jonathan Fong, Helen Pollak, Cheyenne Wu and Ian Kempner, Valentina and Lee Pippin, Suzanna Lin and Edward Lin, May Jang, May Thomas and her son, Kevin Hu, Diana Grandy Hexiang and John Zhu, Nancy Cao, Victor & Rose Sim, May Thomas; Joe and Lesley Correia, Jinbo & Kitty Yin, and Marti & Greg Rudick. If we have inadvertently left out your name(s) please forgive us for the oversight. Thank you to everyone who have contributed big and small and volunteered on various events and attended planning meetings to make this a successful event.

Our GCAA CNY was sponsored in part by Drs. Edward and Suzanna Lin, Wal-Mart SuperCenter of Osprey and the Blue Exchange.

[Report on GCAA website:](#)

**Thanks to Barry Zhang, our website is now up and running:
www.GulfcoastChineseAmerican.org**

**Please send suggestions for new features and improvement to Barry at
bzhang@wenbosystems.com**

5. Upcoming events and attractions =====

GCAA Speaker Series:

Sunday March 4 at 3:00 PM

Dr. Edward Lin, Founder of Ingenious Technologies Corp. will give a talk on “My American Odyssey—Powered by Belief.”

Dr. Lin is a Yale-University trained anesthesiologist 麻醉学家 and inventor 发明家. He was cited in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in Science and Engineering. In 2006, Dr. Lin was an Honoree in the Modern Marvels Invent Now Challenge, cosponsored by the National Inventors Hall of Fame, Time Magazine and the History Channel.

Dr. Lin will share his incredible personal story of coming to America at age 16. You'll have to hear it to believe it. Dr. Lin hopes to inspire you to dream the impossible, believe in yourself and put the power of positive thinking to work. Invest in your own personal empowerment by attending and bringing your family and friends. **SEATING IS LIMITED. For all Speaker engagements, please RSVP the number in your party to Ms. Helen Pollak at hwpollak@comcast.net. This will help us in our planning. Thank you.**

The Faith Presbyterian Church

Auditorium

**1201 North Beneva Road (at 12th Street)
Sarasota, FL 34232**

Map & Direction

SATURDAY DOUBLE FEATURE CHINESE FILM SERIES

March 24

Both films deal with family relationships in different periods (before ‘opening’ and after).

1:30 **To Live** 活着 (*Houzhe*)

Director: Zhang Yimou 1993. 132 minutes.

The lives of one family from the '40s to just after the end of the Cultural Revolution in 1976 by one of China's most creative Fifth Generation filmmakers. Stars Gong Li and Ge You.

4:00 **The Road Home** 我的母亲父亲 (*Wode muqin fuqin / My mother and father*)

Director: Zhang Yimou, 1999

After years of absence, businessman receives news of the death of his father and returns to his home village to assist his grief-stricken mother with a traditional funeral, and reflects on the love story of his parents. Zhang Ziyi's first major film role.

April 28

1:30 **Frozen** 极度寒冷 (*Jidu hanleng / Frozen Christ*)

Director: Wu Ming, 1996-7. 90 min.

Avant garde graduate students at Beijing's Central Academy of Art are into performance art. One student, encouraged by his enigmatic mentor, plans a suicidal "Ice Burial", despite entreaties by his sister, and his photographer girlfriend. A 'Sixth Generation' film about existential angst with a Hitchcockian twist at the end.

3:30 **A Time to Love** 情人结 (*Qingren jie / Lovers knot*)

Director: Huo Jianqi, 2005. 113 min.

A tender, bittersweet love story. When childhood sweethearts become college students their families try to break them up, but will not tell them why. The two come to imagine themselves as Romeo and Juliet, and read various versions of the play and even plan to commit double suicide. Stars Zhao Wei (*Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress*).

All films will be screened on the campus of Ringling School of Art and Design in Room CJ-9 in the Christ-Janer Center, located on the south side of Martin Luther King Boulevard south of the Selby Gallery. It is building #24 on the campus map available on line at <http://www.rsad.edu/fileadmin/pdf/CampusMap.pdf> . Parking available in the two lots on the south side of Martin Luther King.

Admission is free.

Series is designed by Dr. Carolyn Bloomer to support her Cultural Beliefs course *Modern China*,

and is co-sponsored by the Gulfcoast Chinese American Association

and the Sarasota Chapter of the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association.

For more information contact: cbloomer@Ringling.edu

6. Volunteers needed=====

to help with various programs of GCAA, and to take over the Editorship of the GCAA newsletter. This is your chance to develop personal growth and derive satisfaction at the same time by serving your community. Please contact Dr. Xueji Zhang, or Cheyenne Wu if you are willing to do your part. "We all can make a difference, and we must!"

TRANSLATORS sought to translate our GCAA newsletter into Chinese so we can reach out to the Chinese in our area who have limited proficiency in English. We are not seeking to translate the entire newsletter; we can start with minimal sections (such as GCAA Good Sundays) that are important for helping maintain channels of contact and social activity. In the future when our website is up, we also will need help with translations there. Please volunteer to help. Thanks!

7. Notice of GCAA Good Sundays=====

Our monthly social is held at 5:30P on the first Sunday of each month. These are not official meetings, just an opportunity to meet other families who share or are interested in Chinese friendship, culture and heritage. If you plan to attend, please RSVP the number in your party to Helen Pollak at hwpollak@comcast.net by Friday so the restaurant can plan space and waiters accordingly. A discount is extended to all attendees. When a major program is approaching (such as Chinese New Year), the Programs Committee and other volunteers often meet earlier, at 4:30PM, to discuss planning matters. Please join them and lend a hand. **This is YOUR association and it can become better with you being an active part of it. Thank you.**

For odd numbered months, Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov 2007, it will be at:

Grand China Buffet (Tel: 341-9868)

3969 Cattlemen Rd., Sarasota, FL 34233

At the southwest corner of I-75 (Exit 207) and Bee Ridge, between Burlington Coat Factory and Home Depot.

For even numbered months, Feb/Apr/June/Aug/Oct/Dec 2007, it will be at:

Oriental Buffet (Tel: 377-6699)

4458 Bee Ridge Rd, Sarasota (Take Exit 207 and head west for 2 mi;

turn left before MacIntosh into the plaza at the southeast intersection with McIntosh).

8. Kudos to our members and families =====

Don't be shy. Please let us know what's happening in your family that our community should know about. We'll all crow along.

Congratulations to Carlos and Sara Malave and their two (soon to be three) lovely daughters, MeiMei and Snow. Sara wrote:

"After more than 2 long years of riding the rollercoaster called adoption, we are thrilled to announce the referral of our 3rd little girl from the Peoples Republic of China!!!

Two-year old Mao XiBing is residing at: Maoming Welfare Institute at Maoming, Guangdong Province. She is very energetic, and with quick reaction. She loves music and loves to sing. She loves to talk, and can walk on her own. She is absolutely adorable!!!!

We are all over the moon! The girls are really bouncing off the walls over her!

As the Malave family plans their trip to China within the month, we all wish them boundless bliss as they share their love and do their part to make the world a better place.



Nancy Cao, GCAA's treasurer, recently passed a series of CPA exam with flying colors. Congratulations, Nancy, we are very proud of you. Nancy also graciously gave a talk on "how to maximize your income tax returns" on February 4, when GCAA president was unable to give his original scheduled talk due to travels. Nancy Cao, CPA, is with the accounting firm of Dowell & Perez in Tampa. She can be reached at (813) 221-2411 ext 230

GCAA members, Jinbo & Kitty Yin along with Ai Zhang Lu were in the 3/1/07 Herald Tribune news with a lovely article about Chinese lettering lesson they gave the Venice Library and the much sought after Sarasota Chinese Academy. To read the full story, please follow this link:

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2007703010353>

9. Feature Article

9b. Solicitation for Articles and Reports =====

If you have any news or announcements of interest or pride and relevance to the GCAA, FCC and USCPFA, please send it to elin@ingenious.com. Letters to the Editor are also welcome. Thank you.

10. Helpful Info and articles of Interest =====

<http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061209/APA/612091973>

Thanks to Sophia Fong for this Timely article below:

Feb 1, 2007 Washington Post

WASHINGTON - It seemed so simple and familiar: Spring forward, fall back. For 20 years, that's what Americans — and their technology — have done with their clocks on the first Sunday in April and the last Sunday in October.

No longer. When few people were paying attention in August 2005, Congress lengthened daylight saving time by four weeks in the name of energy efficiency.

The change takes effect this year — on March 11 — and it has angered airlines, delighted candy makers and sent thousands of technicians scrambling to make sure countless automated systems switch their clocks at the right moment. Unless changed by one method or another, many systems will remain programmed to read the calendar and

REMINDER. PLEASE KEEP YOUR EMAIL ADDRESSES CURRENT WITH US SO WE CAN keep current in our channels of communications. Outdated email addresses create returned mail and hinder my efficiency. Please also provide us the email addresses of your teenagers so they can stay informed of the GCAA activities as well. If you have or anticipate a change in your email address, please notify me (Ed Lin; elin@ingenious.com), Dr. Kevin Hu (cunkuohu@yahoo.com) and Ms. Helen Pollak (hwpollak@comcast.net) promptly via email.

Support Pine View's Class of 2007 with a \$25 donation and receive a professional Family Beach Portrait (a \$100 value!) FREE!! Includes sitting fee and 1-8x10 photo from Moments In Time Photography. Satisfaction is guaranteed. Your friends, relatives, neighbors, co-workers, etc. are also welcome to participate **or receive this offer as a gift from you.** To take advantage of this offer, you must send a \$25 check payable to "Pine View School Class of 2007" and mail it to:

Beach Portrait, 1109 Millpond Court, Osprey, FL 34229 (Tel: 966-0890)

Please include on your check, your name, address, and phone number.

Please contact Fred Mailloux or Rick Geiger for appointment and location (941) 362-4567. Moments In Time Photography, 6616 Gateway Ave., Sarasota, FL 34231

11. For Sale/Wanted =====

SALESPERSON WANTED. Immediate opening at J&K Kitchen & Bath, 4141 Tamiami Trail S. Sarasota, FL 34231 Phone: (941) 922-6981 Mobile: 646-831-8181

Ask for Ms. JinXing Yang. Base salary plus commission.

BABYSITTER WANTED

for a newborn baby; must speak Mandarin.

Location: North Sarasota

Preferred hours: Mon-Friday 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Please call (941) 587-6893 for further details and flexibility options

FOR RENT OR SALE:

Brand new cul de sac home in beautifully landscaped and gated Venetian Golf and River Club off Laurel and near I-75. 3-BR 2-bath w/2-car garage. 1,508 SF under air with screened-in lanai. Water and golf course view from master bedroom, living room and lanai. Fabulous amenities include club house restaurant, community swimming pool, tennis court, fitness center and walking trail through nature preserve. Non smoking. \$1,450/per month with annual lease. Shorter terms available. \$2,900 security deposit. References.

e-mail: best_ck9103@yahoo.com or call 941-966-4355

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Please send email to

- 1) elin@ingenious.com, with copy to cunkuohu@yahoo.com and hwpollak@comcast.net
- 2) Write "Unsubscribe to GCAA Newsletter" in subject box.

Your email address will be promptly removed from the list of **ALL** GCAA newsletters and other electronic notifications.