

Gulfcoast Chinese-American Association (GCAA) Newsletter

Issue May-Jun 2008 - Released on May 05, 2008

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Highlights of this issue

*** 100-Day Count Down to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games! ***

-- GCAA beach picnic THIS Saturday, May 10 – RSVP NOW!

-- Feature report –CNN commentator apologized for his comments on China.

-- Special report authored by Foster Stockwell, Tibet—Myth and Reality.

1. Message from the Editor

Dear GCAA members and friends,

Greetings from China! Having been traveling in China, Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen, for more than one month since the end of March, I felt compelled to share with you what I have seen and experienced here.

China is undergoing overwhelming change, by all measures. Constructions seem to never stop -- sparks of welding flame flash all day and night; traffic congestion is getting worse and worse with thousands of new car plates licensed everyday while highway expansion struggles to keep up; the air is becoming even more polluted even though government promised to put mitigation measures in effect; people's desire for high-end and better quality consumer products drives the price tag up and up...

With Chinese currency appreciation up to 18% since 2006, labor cost inflation and more stringent labor laws, Chinese entrepreneurs are forced to move up the value chain from low value-add labor intensive segments. Two markets are booming and attracting more attention: Automotive and Healthcare.

The Beijing Auto Show was held from April 20 through 28 in the New International Exhibition Center in

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Reduce Your Insurance Costs & Secure Your Home

Beijing's suburb which covers 180,000+ square feet of space. It is very exciting to see numerous new models launched by the domestic Chinese car makers, encouraged by Chinese government's "self-brand-name" support. SAIC, GAG (no, it's not bad at all), FAW, Geely, Chery, Great Wall (and it moves)... names you might never heard of, technically brought up to speed by their U.S. or European counterparts, and now are offering their own brand name self-designed car models to join the fiercely competitive China auto market, and moreover, exporting to developing countries. In a few cases, such as Brilliance, their luxury car is being certified to sell in Europe and the U.S.

The Medical Equipment Fair held in Shenzhen was also breath-taking – over 2000 domestic and foreign exhibitors, from sophisticated MRI machines, precision surgical instruments to low-tech content home care products. A large and aging population, rising living standards and expectations of healthcare provision together with the current low penetration of medical devices combine to make China a huge and attractive market.

There is no time to waste. The fast-paced economic development and millions of people striving for a better life result in a sizzling competitive atmosphere -- This is the land of opportunity. The ancient Chinese Confucius "non-ambitious" influence seems to be fading away. Many Chinese companies are aggressively expanding abroad with a vision and passion to dominate the world market with their products and services, just like many prestigious American companies did decades ago.

Yours truly,

Libin Huang

2. Program Committee Reports

GCAA Tennis Tournament Report

By Jason (Guoming) Guan

After playing for five weekends, the first GCAA tennis tournament reached the final moment. R.J. Zhao defeated Tony Shi and won the men's champion. Tony Shi won the men's run-up. Peter Mondello earned the third place. Yuhong Wan and Yanrong Fu fought three matches for two and half hours under the bright sunshine at noon time. Finally Yuhong Wan edged out and won the women's champion. Yanrong Fu won the women's run-up. Guo Mingyi earned the third.

We had a very good time in playing tennis and have improved our tennis skills by practicing the moves in the competitive games. After the games finished, our players were very excited and looked forward to the next tournament as David Dai and Jason Liu said "We are going to take down R.J. next time". The women's matches were even closer. Even though the ladies did not speak out as the boys did, we could still see that the ladies were looking for rematches in the next tournament as well. We would like to thank Jason Liu and Guo Mingyi for providing the tennis court in the 5-week tournament. Most of all, we would like to thank the players for making their efforts in the games. As a starter, Lin Jie would earn a special prize for taking part in the tournament and finishing her games. We are looking forward to seeing more players in the next tournament.

*FDA Adds
Warning to
Carbamazepine
Label for
Patients of
Asian
Ancestry*

8. The Funnies

Volunteers needed

to help with various programs of GCAA. This is your chance to develop personal growth and derive satisfaction at the same time by serving your community. Please contact Dr. Xueji Zhang, Sean Kuang, May Thomas or Cheyenne Wu if you are willing to do your part. See contact info below under "Who to contact About What". "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 a few sections that are important for helping maintain channels of contact and social activity. We also need help with translations for our website. Please volunteer to help. Thanks!

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 or Mrs. Libin Huang libinh@linkingbt.com. Letters to the Editor are also welcome. Thank you.

Sponsors

The GCAA Newsletter is sponsored in part by

Feng Shui advisor-practitioner, Gigi Freeman, member of GCAA since 2005, now available for consultations for those interested. Gigi has been practicing Feng Shui for more than 20 years under the guidance of her Chinese-Filipino-Spanish father who was knowledgeable in Feng Shui principles. She has a certificate from the New York School of Feng Shui where she studied Classical Feng Shui focused on the Compass School and Form School. Feng Shui aims to balance the environment in your home or office, very much like an

3. Schedule of GCAA activities:

GCAA BEACH PICNIC THIS SATURDAY, May 10--- RSVP NOW!

May 10, South Lido Park

Please come and join us for a beach picnic on May 10, Saturday, from 5:00PM-8:00PM at South Lido Park, located at 2201 Ben Franklin Dr., Lido Key, Sarasota. It is at the very end of Lido Key. Please RSVP to rsvp4event@gmail.com with the number in your party so we can properly plan the food and drink purchases. We very much appreciate your cooperation.

This event is FREE for all dues-paid members and you are welcome to join and pay your dues (\$25/family for many benefits throughout the year) on Picnic Day. We will be providing hot dog, hamburgers, drinks and utensils. We ask that you bring a side dish or dessert/fruit to share with others.

We also suggest that you may want to bring along: beach chairs/blanket, insect repellent, some beach toys for those with children.

We look forward to seeing everyone!

Saturday double feature Chinese film series

*******Thanks to Dr. Carolyn Bloomer, 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

What Does It Mean to Become an American?

In every immigrant group, each generation finds a balance between the values and practices of its heritage, and the mores of its adopted country. What is lost and what is gained, both personally and culturally, when one sheds part of one's heritage to make way for a new self-identity? Bill Moyers, Series Producer Thomas Lennon, and a team of filmmakers including Series Editor Ruby Yang and Producers Joseph Angier, Steve Cheng and Mi Ling Tsui explore this dramatic portion of America's history and confront myths about the Chinese in America that have flourished in the void. For further information go to

<http://www.pbs.org/becomingamerican/aboutprograms.html>

Beginning May 5, the following 4-part series BECOMING AMERICAN will re-air on some PBS stations (Unfortunately, our WEDU and WUSF in the Tampa Bay area do not appear to be among them.)

"acupuncture of your living or work space" to achieve harmony in your life, promote prosperity, success, good health, and good relationships. Gigi has lived most of her life in Asia and Mexico; she moved to Venice, Florida in 2004 with her Cuban-Canadian husband, Larry. You may call her at (941) 484-3917 or (941) 932-1642 for appointments.

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 email : jk58inc@hotmail.com

The new owners, Mr. KongBiao Ni and Ms. JinXing Yang, started their business in January 2007 They 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 acknowledges with sincere thanks the generous support and sponsorship of the Marco Polo Restaurant in our past 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.

Recommended Services

Certified Inspection for Hurricane-Resistant Home Discount

If you have purchased a hurricane resistant home or made structural improvements to your home (hurricane shutters and straps, reinforced trusses, etc.) to render it hurricane resistant, you may be entitled to substantial discounts from your homeowner's insurance carrier. However, a written inspection report by a My-Safe-Florida-Home-certified home inspector, architect, engineer or general building contractor is required. Our GCAA member and FCC parent, Jamie Milholland is one of a few My-Safe-Florida-Home-certified home inspector in our area. Dr. Lin saved a significant amount on his homeowner's insurance and recommends you look into whether or not you may qualify for similar savings. Give Jamie a call at 941-362-4862.

The Ringling College Library owns this series, and anyone is free to come in and view it in the library. Members of the Ringling College Library Association (annual membership fee \$50) may check it out. Over the summer the Library hours are M-F 9am - 4 pm. Apparently the Sarasota County Library does not own this series.

Dr. Carolyn Bloomer will host a showing of the series on the Ringling College campus in classroom CJ-9 as follows

Saturday, May 24

1:30 Program One: Gold Mountain Dreams

As civil war and famine ravaged Southern China in the mid-19th century, word of the California Gold Rush reached the port of Canton. The prospect of making a fortune in America proved an irresistible lure to young Chinese men. They set sail across the Pacific hoping for a better life. More>>

3:30 Program Two: Between Two Worlds

Part Two tells the story of hostile years when Chinese Americans existed in a kind of limbo, denied the rights of their new country and no longer at home in their former one. They found refuge in Chinatowns, insular worlds that provided a sense of security and the companionship of kinsmen. More>>

Saturday June 21

1:30 Program Three: No Turning Back

World War II ushered in major changes for Chinese Americans. In an abrupt about face, they were suddenly embraced by America's political establishment. The exclusion laws were quickly repealed and Chinese Americans began their rise to the pinnacle of U.S. life. More>>

3:30 Becoming American: Personal Journeys

Watch a three-part series of one-on-one interviews by Bill Moyers with author Gish Jen, Nobel prize-winning physicist Samuel Ting, AIDS researcher David Ho, businesswoman Shirley Young, and artist Maya Lin. More>>

<http://www.pbs.org/becomingamerican/aboutprograms.html>

For more information contact Dr. Bloomer at cbloomer@ringling.edu

Location: 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> (although the building itself is marked #21).

Parking available in the two lots on the south side of Martin Luther King.

Monthly Social

Stitches

Looking a good local seamstress for all your alteration needs, or looking for some embroidery work to be done? Well, look no further! Sara Malave, a FCC parent and magna cum laude graduate of Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising can help. Stitches is a home owned business that has been in operation since 1998. She also offers sewing camps for children at various times throughout the year. Call 366-4406 with any questions or for an appointment.

First National Travel

I have a top notch travel agent I'd like to recommend:

Toni Liang of

FNTC (FIRST NATIONAL TRAVEL)

3166 CHESTNUT DR CONNECTOR

SUITE 101

ATLANTA GA 30340

TELEPHONE: 678 530 0840 or 800-888-0208

FAX : 678 530 0768

Email: toni.liang@att.net

For sale or wanted

BUSINESS FOR SALE: GCAA member Lolly Baerveldt announces that she is closing her store, China Trade, at the end of May and everything is on sale. The store sells furniture, gifts and accessories in the Chinese style and has been in business since 1986. China Trade is located at 2300 Bee Ridge Rd in the Colonnade Plaza, and is open Monday thru Saturday. Hurry in for close-out bargains!

HOUSE FOR SALE Lovely freshly painted Bruce Williams Laurel Hill pool home features 2 bedrooms and a large den which could easily be converted to a 3rd bedroom. 1673 SF under central air, 2241 SF under roof. Home has extensive upgrades to include a waterfall pool with 6 ft. private fence, security system, hurricane film windows, built-in surround

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 Qinghong Wei at qhwei89@gmail.com 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 2008, 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 2008, 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).

GCAA basketball games

on Friday evenings

Location: Isles basketball court (outdoor, lighted)

Time: 7:00pm - 9:00pm on Fridays

Address: 5918 Benevento Dr., Sarasota, FL 34238

Directions: Head towards the south end of Honore. After passing Central Sarasota Pkwy, take the second street on the left (Aviano Ln) into Isles community and pass the bridge, make a left turn on Benevento, continue 100 feet, the basketball court is on your right side.

For more information: contact Jason Liu 941-320-3814.

4. Kudos and spotlight on our members and families

Kudos

sound. Lanai is extended and home is located near shopping, hospital, entertainment and excellent schools! Ask \$269,900 or lease at \$1400/month. Sarasota MLS Number: 361389; Manatee MLS Number: 562214. Please contact Henry Zhu at <mailto:hexiangzhu@hotmail.com> or 941-907-9178.

FOR SALE: Heavy duty towing hitch plus tongue, lock. Barely used. Cost over \$175, now only \$50.

Trailer dolly. Used twice. Asking \$75. Magic Chef 3.6CF refrigerator, black with stainless steel door. \$90

Call Sue 966-0690

PC for sale

Dell SC430 Desktop Computer

Pentium 4 3.0 GHz Processor w. Hyperthreading

80 GB SATA Hard Drive

48X CD burner

DVD ROM Drive

Creative Audigy 2 ZS PCI Soundcard

512MB DDR2 RAM

USB keyboard and mouse

Windows XP Professional SP2

Microsoft Office 2003 Pro

ZoneAlarm Personal Firewall

Avast! Antivirus Home Edition

Whisper Quiet. Asking \$200.

17" Dell CRT color Monitor \$50

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.

In the interest of helping members to be better acquainted with each other, beginning with this issue, we will randomly feature profiles on several members. Be sure to check each issue to see if you or someone you know has been selected for the "Spotlight." Please submit capsules of about 250 words to elin@ingenious.com and Ms. Libin Huang libinh@linkingbt.com.

Spotlight on our members and families

Bill and Lily Kokoefer

Bill and Lily Kokoefer have been residents of Sarasota, FL since 2000. While Bill is from Cincinnati, OH, Lily is originally from Guiyang, China. They met in China through business and have been married in US for 7 years. Bill and Lily are owners of their own business, Chinagy Sourcing, which offers offshore sourcing service primarily in Asian countries (China and India). They serve clients throughout USA, UK, Canada and Australia. They currently have a team of 20+ staffs in their China office (located in Shenzhen, Guangdong) and few hundred manufactures contacts in various categories all over China. They live half of their time in China and the other half in USA...

Bill Holds a Bachelor degree in marketing from University of Cincinnati, Prior to establishing Chinagy Sourcing, he was founder and president of Creative Group that acted as a marketing and management company for a wide range of U.S. manufacturers. Bill has extensive experience in consumer goods: in marketing, sales, manufacturing, strategy, and management.

Lily is a graduate of the University of South Florida. She holds degrees in Management Information Systems, International Business and Economics. She is also a graduate of Guizhou University, China and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting and Finance. Her responsibilities have included Account Management, Director of IT Division, Marketing and Sales coordinator, and Executive Vice President. She manages oversight of all operational and financial functions of the company. If you'd like to know more about their services, please visit: <http://www.chinagysourcing.com/>

Caroline Yuhong Wan and Jason Guoming Guan Family

Yuhong Wan and Guoming Guan are both from the beautiful city Yangzhou in Jiangsu province, China. Guoming earned his Ph.D. degree in physics from University of Tennessee in 1998. Currently he is working at World Precision Instruments Inc. as research scientist. Yuhong got her MBA in finance and accounting in 2004 and is looking for a job as an accountant. She is GCAA's Treasurer. They have a lovely 6-year-old daughter, Christiana. Both Yuhong and Guoming love sports, such as tennis, table tennis, swimming, volleyball and dance. They wanted Christiana to become a tennis star. However, Christiana has her own plan. She is more interested in soccer than tennis now. Guoming currently serves as co-director for GCAA Sports and Entertainment program.

5. Upcoming events & attractions

Call Bryan, 941-544-8058

Request for Help

Adoption Help Website

By Frank Balogh Jr

If we received \$1 from 24,000 people it would be done. Please help us! www.GloriousBlessing.com/Adoption

We are adopting this wonderful Brother and Sister. We had applied for one child and these guys came up, we don't want to separate them! However the cost has doubled and because of their age air fare is also needed one way back for both of them.

Also any extra funds will be given to "Cathwel Service" (<http://www.cs.org.tw/>) Jonah House the Orphanage in Taiwan.

You can help by booking your next flight or travel plans thru www.ytbtravel.com/FloridaSun and by buying Your house hold goods at <http://www.quixtar.com/> with IBO # 0905880 Referring IBO Frank Balogh

Who to contact about what

General info and past issues of Newsletters:

www.GulfcoastChineseAmerican.org for updates

Info and articles to be included in upcoming issues of Newsletter:

Editor, Mrs. Libin Huang libinh@linkingbt.com (248) 701-0878

Matters relating to GCAA Programs:

Co-Director, Dr. Sean Kuang, xkuang1@lsu.edu, 941-538-8525

Co-Director, May Thomas,

Co1076@yahoo.com , 941-322-9220

100-day Count Down to the Beijing Olympic Games

“One World, One Dream”

August 8-24, 2008

Official website: <http://en.beijing2008.cn/>

The Olympics are a time to celebrate as nations drop their political agenda and come together. I encourage all to cast off the negativity and protests of the games and prepare to enjoy the years of preparation and hard work put forth by the athletes and our gracious host country, China. I anticipate the opening ceremonies to be unlike any we have seen before ... the Chinese are masters at this!! ---
Laurie St. Denis

SUMMER MAGIC CAMP

Now in its 2nd year, Camp Cigma -- a highly successful summer day-camp for children 7-13 years old held on the New College campus -- is the only magic camp on Florida's West Coast and one of only two in the entire state. Camp Cigma builds poise, self-esteem, and confidence through teaching how magic tricks are done, theatre games, puzzles, juggling, and performance art. Camp Cigma also has a Teen Leadership Camp for 14-15 year olds. More information can be found at the web-site: <http://www.campcigma.com/>. (submitted by Carolyn Bloomer)

6. Feature Articles and Reports

Feature Report: Jack Cafferty of CNN used denigrating remark, "goons and thugs" when commenting about Chinese and China

Jack Cafferty, a CNN news commentator, on April 9's airing of The Situation Room, described Chinese products as "junk" and referred to either the Chinese/Chinese government as a "bunch of goons and thugs".

Responding to waves of outraged faxes, letters, emails, web postings and calls, Jack Cafferty made an on-air apology for his comments towards China on April 16.

Below is a letter to Jack Cafferty by our GCAA Chairman, Dr. Edward Lin, in his role as Director of 80-20 Initiative:

**April 14, 2008

Matters relating to membership and how to join

Co-Director of Membership, Jian Wang jian@doctorhan.com
941-924-2278

Co-Director of Membership, Linda Fung elfunkkee@verizon.net; 941 918-8505

Matters relating to monthly socials

Qinghong Wei, Secretary qhwei89@gmail.com, (941) 284-1379

Matters relating to sports programs

Jason Guan guanguoming@yahoo.com, 941-379-4180

Jason Liu Liu5051@hotmail.com, (941) 923-2959

GCAA website

www.GulfcoastChineseAmerican.org

Barry Zhang, WebMaster: bzhang@comcast.net

Asst. WebMaster John Zhu juntaozhu15@yahoo.com

Community Relations

Director of: Dr. Carolyn Bloomer, cmbloomer@comcast.net
(941) 351-0995

Other issues:

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

How to unsubscribe to this Newsletter:

Please send email to

elin@ingenious.com or libinh@linkingbt.com

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.

Dear Mr. Cafferty,

I have been a devoted viewer of The Situation Room and have enjoyed your coverage of news and geopolitical issues. It is this type of reporting that makes CNN so widely watched around the world.

80-20 Initiative is the largest Asian American political action committee in the US with over 700,000 supporters reachable within 8 hours. Our mission is to gain equal opportunity and justice for all Asian Americans. As such, we are non-partisan and have no interest in siding with or defending any foreign governments.

With that understanding, I wish to express on behalf of our supporters our deep concern over certain words you used in your segment on April 9th wherein you complained about the “junk” out of China, and referred to the current Chinese government and/or people as the “same bunch of goons and thugs”.

While we share your condemnation of the paucity of human rights progress in China—we are dismayed and disappointed that a person of your intellect and national preeminence made such indistinct statements which could easily be interpreted to be an ethnic slam on the Chinese people in general, and with unfortunate detrimental racial repercussions for the 15 million Asian Americans.

Although I am certain you meant no ill towards ethnic Americans, it is important to recognize the damage that such rhetoric can cause not only to Chinese-Americans but also the entire Asian American community who are first and foremost loyal Americans.

As you know, defective and unsafe products are not unique to China. We have plenty of our own massive recalls of beef, lettuce, tires, etc. You are in a unique position to help our fellow Americans achieve a balanced factual understanding of the complex interdependent relationship between US and China, as well as that with other nations. Only through such understanding can we forge genuine solutions to the problems and issues that face our nation, and we encourage you to continue to do your part.

The brutal and fatal clubbing in 1982 of Vincent Chin, a young Chinese American engineer by Detroit autoworkers who mistook him for a Japanese, the wrongful persecution of Los Alamos scientist Dr. Wen Ho Lee, the targeting of Arab Americans in hate crimes post-911 are examples of the power of rhetoric that incite emotions including bigotry. I thank you in advance for your thoughtful and judicious choice of words in your commentaries, because your influential words can have deadly consequences.

Mr. Cafferty, your sensitivity in taking care to make the distinction that you are castigating a foreign regime, rather than its people will be much appreciated. It would also be gracious of you to clarify what you had meant to say on April 9 and to categorically affirm that your comments were not in any way intended to cast an aspersion on the millions of patriotic Chinese Americans who have nothing to do with defective products or goons and thugs.

[Cafferty Replied to 80-20 Initiative: Did Not Mean to Hurt Chinese People](#)

Featured Links

[Chinese American Heroes:](#)

<http://www.chineseamericanheroes.org/>

Here visitors can read about great scientists and seemingly “ordinary” Chinese Americans who are anything but.

I am particularly touched to read about Betty Ann Ong who made such crucial contribution to the 911 Commission through her immense courage. What an incredible lady! She makes all of us proud.

--- *Edward Lin*

The following is a translation by Zhigang Zhang of an April 28, 2008 World News Journal article in Chinese with the above headline [Reporters: Mingzi Xu in Berkeley - telephone Interview with Dr. SB Woo in Florida] S. B. Woo, a member of 80-20 Initiative's Executive Committee said to reporter: After Cafferty received email on April 14 from 80-20 President Kathleen To to express 80-20's "deep concern for his statement broadcast on CNN," Cafferty clarified that his statement referred to the Chinese government, not its people.

Cafferty was asked "to clarify" that his words "were not in any way intended to cast an aspersion on the millions of patriotic Chinese Americans," On the same day, Cafferty replied that he was referring strictly to the Chinese government and not to the Chinese people or Chinese Americans. He made the same clarification on air that evening (4/14) at approximately 6:10 p.m..

S. B. Woo posted the emails to supporters on April 28 via 80-20 email system. For the question: why he posted the emails two weeks later, he said the related emails were posted in the 80-20 website: <http://www.80-20initiative.net/> in a timely manner. He said people would have calmed down a bit after two weeks, but some people did feel frustration, and "most of them are Chinese Students, not Chinese Americans".

S. B. Woo told reporters: A distinction should be made between Chinese Americans and Chinese students. " If foreigners had become Chinese citizens, yet protest and demonstrate to the Chinese government for their motherland, the Chinese government could be dismayed too." He criticized some people for wishing to derive one-sided or personal benefit from either the Chinese government or the American government; those people " should balance their conscience".

He also indicated to the reporter that if Cafferty had not clarified his statement was about the Chinese government (rather than its people), 80-20 would have mounted a campaign with all its resources. A case in point was 80-20 Initiative's successful fight back of CNN's distorted report about the reason behind the overwhelming support for Sen. Clinton from the Asian American community after the super Tuesday primary election in California. 80-20's petition pushed CNN to present a more balanced report, and to interview S. B. Woo.

Further, Dr. Woo reminds us that 80-20 is an Asian American organization, not a Chinese American organization. Asian Americans have come from many native lands with different histories. Taking positions on foreign issues could be detrimental to the unity of the Asian American community. So 80-20 will not take a positions on US foreign policy and foreign matters. Since Cafferty's statement is about the Chinese government, it's a matter properly left to the Chinese government to deal with. Dr. Woo emphasized that this in no way means that 80-20 agreed with Cafferty's statement (even as clarified to apply only to the Chinese government).

Special Report:

Tibet - Myth and Reality

by Foster Stockwell

About the Author

Foster Stockwell is a publishing consultant for Chinese publishers and authors. He is also the author of Religion in China Today (1993), A Sourcebook for Genealogical Research: Resources Alphabetically by Type and Location (2004), and A History of Information Storage and Retrieval (2001). He lives in Des Moines, Washington.

Western concepts of Tibet embrace more myth than reality. The idea that Tibet is an oppressed nation composed of peaceful Buddhists who never did anyone any harm distorts history. In fact the belief that the Dalai Lama is the leader of world Buddhism rather than being just the leader of one sect among more than 1,700 "Living Buddhas" of this unique Tibetan form of the faith displays a parochial view of world religions.

The myth, of course, is an outgrowth of Tibet's former inaccessibility, which has fostered illusions about this mysterious land in the midst of the Himalayan Mountains -- illusions that have been skillfully promoted for political purposes by the Dalai Lama's advocates. The myth will inevitably die, as all myths do, but until this happens, it would be wise to learn a few useful facts about this area of China.

First, Tibet has been a part of China ever since it was merged into that country in 1239, when the Mongols began creating the Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368). This was before Marco Polo reached China from Europe and more than two centuries before Columbus sailed to the New World. True, China's hold on this area sometimes appeared somewhat loose, but neither the Chinese nor many Tibetans have ever denied that Tibet has been a part of China from the Yuan Dynasty to this very day.

The early Tibetans evolved into a number of competing nomadic tribes and developed a religion known as Bon that was led by shamans who conducted rituals that involved the sacrifice of many animals and some humans. These tribes fought battles with each other for better grazing lands, battles in which they killed or made slaves of those they conquered. They roamed far beyond the borders of Tibet into areas of China's Sichuan and Yunnan provinces, Xinjiang, Gansu, and Qinghai. Eventually one of these tribes, the Tubo, became the most powerful and took control of all Tibet. (The name Tibet comes from Tubo.) During China's Tang Dynasty (618-907), Emperor Taizong improved relations with the Tubo king, Songtsen Gampo, by giving him one of his daughters, Princess Wenzheng, in marriage. The Tubos, in response to this cementing of relations, developed close fraternal ties with the Tang court, and the two ruling powers regularly exchanged gifts.

The princess arrived in Tibet with an entourage of hundreds of servants, skilled craftspeople, and scribes. She was a Buddhist, as were all of the Tang emperors, and so Buddhism entered Tibet mainly through her influence, only to be suppressed later by resentful Bon shamans. Some years later another Tang princess was married to another Tubo king, again to cement relations between the two rulers.

The fact that the Tibetans and the Chinese had united royal families and engaged actively in trade (Tibetan horses for tea of the Central Plain) didn't mean an absence of conflict between them. Battles occasionally occurred between Tang and Tubo troops, mostly over territorial issues. At one point in the 750s, the Tubos, taking advantage of a rebellion against the Tangs by other armed groups in China, raced on horseback across China to enter the Tang capital of Chang'an. But, they couldn't hold the city.

In 838, the Tubo king was assassinated by two pro-Bon ministers, and the Bon religion was re-established as the only acceptable religion in Tibet. Buddhists were widely persecuted and forced into hiding.

Trade between Tibet and the interior areas continued during the Five Dynasties (907-960) and the Song Dynasty (960-1279) that followed the collapse of the Tang, although relations between the two ruling powers were limited. During this time Buddhism revived in Tibet as a result of the Buddhists' willingness to accommodate some Bon practices. The form of Buddhism that resulted from this merging of the two religions was quite different from that of China and other countries in Southeast Asia, as well as from the form that had been practiced previously in Tibet.

Tibetan Buddhism, often called Lamaism, appealed to the Mongols, who conquered most of Russia, parts of Europe, and all of China under the leadership of Genghis Khan. The Mongols, like the Tibetans, were tribal herders who had a religion of animism similar to Bon.

When Kublai Khan, the first Yuan emperor, appointed administrators to Tibet, he elevated the head of the Tibetan Buddhist Sakya sect to the post of leader of all Buddhists in China, thus giving this monk greater power than any Buddhist had ever held before - and probably since. Needless to say, the appointment irritated the leaders of the other Buddhist sects in Tibet and the much larger group of non-Tibetan Buddhists in China. But, they couldn't do anything to counter the wishes of the emperor.

The Yuan Dynasty divided Tibet into a series of administrative areas and put these areas under the charge of an imperial preceptor. Furthermore, the Yuan court encouraged the growth of feudal estates in Tibet as a way to maintain control there.

When the Yuan Dynasty collapsed, it was replaced by the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), which wasn't composed of persons of Mongolian heritage. Tibet then became splintered because the Ming court adopted a policy of granting hereditary titles to many nobles and a policy of divide and rule.

Although the Ming court conferred the honorific title of Desi (ruling lama) to the head of one of Tibet's most powerful families, the Rinpung family, they also bestowed enough official titles to his subordinates to encourage separatist trends within the local Tibetan society. One of these titles was given to the head of the newly founded Gelugpa sect, better known as the Yellow sect. He later took on the title "Dalai Lama."

Tibet During the Qing Dynasty

The next and last dynasty, the Qing, came to power in 1644 and lasted until 1911. At the time of its founding, the most prominent Tibetan religious and secular leaders were the fifth Dalai Lama, the fourth Panchen Lama, and Gushri Khan. They formed a delegation that arrived at the Chinese capital, Beijing, in 1652.

Before they returned to Tibet the following year, the emperor officially conferred upon Lozang Gyatso (the then Dalai Lama), the honorific title "The Dalai Lama, Buddha of Great Compassion in the West, Leader of the Buddhist Faith Beneath the Sky, Holder of the Vajra." (Dalai is Mongolian for "ocean"; lama is a Tibetan word that means "guru.")

The fifth Dalai Lama pledged his allegiance to the Qing government and in return, received enough gold and silver to build 13 new monasteries of the Yellow sect in Tibet. All successive reincarnations of the Dalai Lama have been confirmed by the central government in China, and this has become a historical convention practiced to this very day.

A later Qing emperor suspected the intentions of the seventh Dalai Lama, so he increased the power of the Panchen Lama (also of the Yellow sect). In 1713 the Qing court granted the title "Panchen Erdeni" to the fifth Panchen Lama, thus elevating him to a status similar to that given to the Dalai Lama (Panchen means "great scholar" in Sanskrit, and Erdeni means "treasure" in Manchu.)

The largest part of the Tibetan population (more than 90 percent) at that time was composed of serfs, who were treated harshly by the landlords and ruling monks. All monasteries had large tracts of land as well as a great number of serfs under their control. The ruling monks' exploitation of these serfs was just as severe as that of the aristocratic landlords.

Serfs had no personal freedom from birth to death. They and their children were given freely as gifts or donations, sold or bartered for goods. They were, in fact, viewed by landlords as "livestock that can speak." As late as 1943, a high-ranking aristocrat named Tsemon Norbu Wangyal sold 100 serfs to a monk in the Drigung area for only four silver dollars per serf.

If serfs lost their ability to work, the lord confiscated all their property, including livestock and farm tools. If they ran away and subsequently were captured, half their personal belongings were given to the captors while the other half went to the lords for whom they worked. The runaways then were flogged or even condemned to death.

The lords used such inhuman tortures as gouging out eyes, cutting off feet or hands, pushing the condemned person over a cliff, drowning and beheading. Numerous rebellions occurred over the years against this harsh treatment, and in 1347 alone (the seventh year of Yuan Emperor Shundi's reign), more than 200 serf rebellions occurred in Tibet.

Foreign Aggression

Foreign nations made numerous attempts to invade Tibet and take it away from China. These were repulsed by Chinese troops and Tibetan fighters. The first such invasion took place in 1337 when Mohammed Tugluk of Delhi (in what is now India) sent 100,000 troops into the Himalayan area.

During the second half of the 18th century, troops from the Kingdom of Nepal invaded Tibet twice in an attempt to expand Nepal's territory.

During the 19th century, Britain competed with Russia in pouring large sums of money and many spies into a struggle to see which of the two might eventually occupy and control Tibet. When the British finally invaded Tibet, first in 1888 and again in 1903, the Russians were so involved in conflicts at home that they couldn't stop the British troops from pushing all the way to Lhasa. And the Qing government, having recently lost the Opium War to the British, did nothing either.

The Tibetans, using spears, arrows, catapults and homemade guns, fought valiantly but to no avail against the invading British army and its big cannons and machine guns. The British withdrew after imposing "peace" terms and before the harsh winter began because they feared the Tibetan resistance would prevent supplies from getting through to the occupying troops, thereby causing them to starve to death.

The British signed a Convention with China in 1906, the second article of which stipulated that the British would no longer interfere with the administration of Tibet and that China had sovereignty over Tibet. But, they conveniently forgot the terms of this agreement when, the very next year, they signed a Convention with Russia that specified British "special interests" in Tibet. It would probably fill a book to detail the many ways the British from that point on tried to take over Tibet and make it a part of their colony of India.

Yet, something needs to be said about the conference held at Simla, India, in 1914. Conference participants included representatives of the new Nationalist government of China that had overthrown the Qing Dynasty just two years before, plus Tibetans, and British-Indians. The British had blackmailed the Chinese into attending by threatening to withdraw their recognition of the new nationalist government and by saying they would work out an agreement with the Tibetans alone if the Chinese didn't participate.

The Simla Conference failed because the Chinese and the 13th Dalai Lama both opposed the British plan to divide Tibet into two parts (Inner and Outer Tibet). The conference, however, did produce one document that since has caused dissension -- a map drawn by the British representative Arthur H. McMahon that never was shown to the Chinese, although it was revealed secretly to the Tibetan delegates.

McMahon's map showed a new boundary line that included three districts of Tibet -- Monyul, Loyul, and Lower Zayul -- within the territory of British-India. This so-called "McMahon Line" first became public 23 years later when it appeared in a printed set of British documents related to the conference and other diplomatic matters. The McMahon Line became the basis for India's failed attempt to take over this part of Tibet in 1962. The British, who made a great show of their desire to have "independence for Tibet" at the Simla Conference, in drawing this map were adding 90,000 square kilometers (an area three times the size of Belgium) from Tibet's natural territory to their own Indian colony.

During and after World War II and shortly before Britain's departure from India, the American Office of Strategic Services (O.S.S., the forerunner of the C.I.A.), operating under Cold War guidelines, joined the British Foreign Office as the instigator of the Tibetan "freedom movement."

Much of what the O.S.S. did in Tibet remains hidden in secret files at C.I.A headquarters near Washington, D.C., but one of their plots has been widely reported. It involved a smear campaign launched against the regent who had been appointed to act for the young 14th Dalai Lama after the 13th Dalai died in 1933. The regent was hostile to U.S.-British intrigues in Tibet, so the O.S.S. spread rumors about his alleged incompetence and criminal activities. Eventually these charges led to the regent's arrest and murder in a Tibetan prison. The 14th Dalai Lama's father subsequently was poisoned because he was a friend and supporter of the regent.

Tibetan Buddhism

Before considering Tibet today, some words should be said about Tibetan Buddhism as a religion. The accommodations it made with Bon resulted in its becoming very different from other forms of Buddhism, particularly from the more common and much larger Chan Buddhism of China (called Zen in Japan). Images found in Tibetan Buddhist temples are much fiercer than those found in other Buddhist temples, and some Tibetan ceremonies that once used human skulls, human skin, and fresh human intestines clearly reflect the animistic elements of Bon.

Also, Tibetan Buddhists rely a great deal on prayer wheels, which most other Buddhists scorn. These

are mechanical devices with prayers written on them that are constantly turned by water or wind so the forces of nature do the work of sending prayers to heaven.

The reincarnation of Living Buddhas, which is unique to this form of Buddhism, began as early as 1294 with the Karma Kagyu sect, a sub-sect of the Kagyu sect (known as the black hats). It then spread to all of Tibetan Buddhism's other sects and monasteries, but it didn't reach the Gelugpa sect (the one that includes the Dalai and Panchen Lama lines) until after 1419.

From the beginning, the system of selecting Living Buddhas was open to abuse because it was easy for clever members of the monk selection committee to manipulate the objects presented to potential child candidates in order to make sure a particular child was chosen. In the case of the fourth Dalai Lama, the child selected was the great-grandson of the Mongolian chief Altan Khan. He was chosen at a time when the Gelugpa sect badly needed the protection of the Altan Khan's followers because the Gelugpa were being persecuted by the older Tibetan sects, who were jealous of the Yellow sect's rapid growth.

Tibet Since 1949

In 1949, the Chinese Communists won the revolution and overthrew the Nationalist government. But they didn't send their army into Tibet until October 1951, after they and Tibetan representatives of the 14th Dalai Lama and 10th Panchen Lama had signed an agreement to liberate Tibet peacefully. The Dalai Lama expressed his support for this 17-point agreement in a telegraphed message to Chairman Mao on October 24, 1951. Three years later the Dalai and Panchen Lamas went together to Beijing to attend the first National People's Congress at which the Dalai Lama was elected vice-chairman of the Standing Committee and the Panchen Lama was elected a member of that committee. After the People's Liberation Army (PLA) entered Tibet, they took steps to protect the rights of the serfs but didn't, at first, try to reorganize Tibetan society along socialist or democratic lines. Yet, the landlords and ruling monks knew that in time, their land would be redistributed, just as the landlords' property in the rest of China had been confiscated and divided among the peasants.

The Tibetan landlords did all they could to frighten the serfs away from associating with the PLA. But, as the serfs increasingly ignored their landlords' wishes and called on the Communists to eliminate the oppressive system of serfdom, some leaders of the "three great monasteries" (Ganden, Sera, and Drepung) issued a statement, in the latter half of 1956, demanding the feudal system be maintained. At this point, the PLA decided the time had come to confiscate the landlords' property and redistribute it among the serfs. The landlords and top-level monks retaliated by announcing, in March 1959, the founding of a "Tibet Independent State," and about 7,000 of them assembled in Lhasa to stage a revolt. Included were more than 170 "Khampa guerrillas" who had been trained overseas by the O.S.S. and air-dropped into Tibet, according to a former C.I.A. agent. The O.S.S. also gave them machine guns, mortars, rifles and ammunition.

The PLA put down the revolt in Lhasa within two days, capturing some 4,000 rebels. The rebellion had the support of the Dalai Lama, but not of the Panchen Lama. After it failed, the Dalai Lama, along with a group of rebel leaders, fled to India.

The most disruptive event of recent years was the "cultural revolution," which lasted from 1966 to 1976. It turned most of Tibet's farm and herding areas into giant communes and closed or destroyed many monasteries and temples, just as it did elsewhere in China. At its end, the communes were disbanded and the temples and monasteries were repaired and reopened at government expense.

The idea that most Tibetans are unhappy about what has happened in Tibet and want independence from China is a product manufactured in the West and promoted by the dispossessed landlords who fled to India. Indeed, to believe it is true stretches logic to its breaking point. Who really can believe that a million former serfs - more than 90% of the population - are unhappy about having the shackles of serfdom removed? They now care for their own herds and farmland, marry whomever they wish without first getting their landlord's permission, aren't punished for disrespecting these same landlords, own their own homes, attend school, and have relatively modern hospitals, paved roads, airports and modern industries.

An objective measure of this progress is found in the population statistics. The Tibetan population has doubled since 1950, and the average Tibetan's life span has risen from 36 years at that time to 65 years at present.

Of course some Tibetans are unhappy with their lot, but a little investigation soon shows that they are, for the most part, people from families who lost their landlord privileges. There is plenty of evidence that the former serfs tell a quite different story.

You will find some Tibetans who hate the Hans (the majority nationality of China) and some Hans who hate the Tibetans, a matter of ordinary ethnic prejudice - something any American should be able to understand. But, this doesn't represent a desire for an independent Tibet any more than black- white hostilities in Washington, D.C., Detroit, or Boston represent a desire on the part of most African-Americans to form a separate nation.

Tibetan Culture Today

The final part of the Tibetan myth has to do with Tibetan culture, which the Dalai Lama's supporters say has been crushed by "the Chinese takeover of Tibet." Culture is an area that requires great care because it is fraught with biases and self-fulfilling judgments. The growth of television in America, for example, is cited as killing American culture by some and as enhancing it by others.

Regarding the field of literature, prior to 1950 Tibetans could point with pride to only a few fine epics that had been passed down through the centuries. Now that serfs can become authors, many new writers are producing works of great quality; persons such as the poet Yedam Tsering and the fiction writers Jampel Gyatso, Tashi Dawa, and Dondru Wangbum.

As for art, Tibet for centuries had produced nothing but repetitious religious designs for temples. Now there are many fine artists, such as Bama Tashi, who has been hailed in both France and Canada as a great modern artist who combines Tibetan religious themes with modern pastoral images.

Tibet now has more than 30 professional song and dance ensembles, Tibetan opera groups, and other theatrical troupes where none existed before 1950.

No, Tibetan culture is not dead; it is flourishing as never before.

SSCA Report:

Xiamen Delegation Visit to Sarasota: Wednesday, March 26

By Dr. Carolyn Bloomer

GCAA, along with USCPFA, Sarasota Sister Cities Association (SSCA), and the City of Sarasota, jointly hosted an 11-person delegation of high officials from the City of Xiamen, led by Xiamen's Vice Mayor Pan Shijian. The one-day visit was planned around Mayor Pan's special interest in public art, particularly sculpture. In the morning, the delegates toured the Ringling Museum and Sculpture Garden, Ca d'Zan, and the Tibbals Center. Lunch at the Museum's Treviso Restaurant was attended by Mayor Lou Ann Palmer and 12 other members of GCAA, USCPFA and SSCA.

At Ringling College of Art and Design, the delegation was photographed in front of the 12 x 18 foot banner of a winning entry to Embracing Our Differences, which had been submitted by a 4th grade student from the Da Tong Elementary School in Xiamen. After a visit to the Dennis Kowal sculpture at the Van Wezel (a small version was given to Siming District in June as a gift from the City), the delegation attended a presentation at City Hall, which outlined Sarasota's policies and practices in regard to the City's public art collection. At Bayfront Park the group toured the Season of Sculpture and Embracing Our Differences, and visited the Sister City Tree Walk to see the Siming tree and plaque installed last fall in honor of the Sister City signing. The farewell dinner at Chart House on Long Boat Key, complete with bilingual menu and a spectacular night view of the Gulf, was attended by 17 additional persons.

The Xiamen delegates were clearly impressed by the warmth and hospitality with which we hosted them – which was possible only with the participation of GCAA members who by-passed language and

cultural barriers to make our guests feel at home. Dr. Xueji Zhang, Qinghong Wei, Huimin Wen, Jason Liu, Helen Wu, and Kevin Hu – 非常感谢你们!

Below is a copy of the winning drawing by Luo Sihang, a 4th grader from Da Tong Elementary School in Xiamen who entered the Sarasota area Embracing Our Differences contest.



大同小学 罗思杭 《世界儿童一家亲》

7. Helpful info and articles of interest

[Reduce Your Insurance Costs & Secure Your Home](#)

By Jamie Milholland, GCAA & FCC member

Are you paying too much for your homeowner's insurance? Did you recently receive an OIR-1802 form from your insurance agent to determine your insurance risk? Where do you turn and what does it cost for this inspection?

Is it time to think about replacing your garage door? How about upgrading to new windows? But what do you do, and how are you going to pay for all those improvements?

If you turn to the My Safe Florida Home program the inspection is FREE!

Begun in 2006, the program is designed to “help Floridians identify how they can strengthen their homes against hurricanes and to reduce hurricane damage exposure in our state”. The state run program offers free wind mitigation inspections for any Floridian whose residence is a single-family, detached, site-built home. For those who qualify there are also matching grants of up to \$5000 to help pay for improvements. **And just because you have an inspection does not mean you are obligated to do the improvements.** It’s all up to you.

As an added side benefit the program also provides completion of the state approved OIR-1802 wind mitigation form. This form may be able to help reduce your insurance costs, and it is also free! (Hiring an inspector to fill out this form can cost up to \$150).

So what are you waiting for?

Set up your free inspection today by contacting Jamie Milholland with [Fine Home Inspections, Inc./ARA](http://www.mysafefloridahome.com/) at 941-362-4862 or get more information by going to the website <http://www.mysafefloridahome.com/> and enter C03 in the code box.

FDA Adds Warning to Carbamazepine Label for Patients of Asian Ancestry

by *TIMOTHY F. KIRN* (Sacramento Bureau)

Internal Medicine News [Volume 41](#), [Issue 4](#), Page 4 (15 February 2008)

Editor’s note: Carbamazepine is an anti-seizure medication sold under the brand names Carbatrol (Shire Pharmaceuticals), Equetro (Validus Pharmaceuticals Inc.), and Tegretol (Novartis). It is also available as a generic drug.

Patients of Asian ancestry are at significantly increased risk for fatal skin reactions when treated with carbamazepine and should undergo genetic testing to assess their risk before initiating therapy, according to an alert issued by the Food and Drug Administration.

Individuals found to carry the human leukocyte antigen-B*1502 allele should forgo treatment with carbamazepine, unless the expected benefit clearly outweighs the risk, according to the FDA’s alert.

The fatal skin reactions, which include Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis, occur more commonly in patients with the human leukocyte antigen-B*1502 allele (genetic marker). People with ancestry across broad areas of Asia, including South Asian Indians, account for almost all carriers of this allele.

The test for the allele is commercially available.

The HLA-B*1502 allele may be present in 10%–15% of the populations of China, Taiwan, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and the Philippines. In South Asia, including India, the prevalence is thought to be 2%–4%, according to a new boxed warning added to carbamazepine labeling.

The prevalence of the allele in patients of Japanese and Korean descent is thought to be less than 1%.

Overall, the risk of Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis associated with carbamazepine use is thought to be 1–6 patients per 10,000 users in countries with a primarily white population. However, the rate may be 10 times higher in Asian countries, according to the FDA.

One case control study from Taiwan reported that 59 of 60 patients who developed Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis associated with carbamazepine had the allele. That compared with a 4% incidence of the allele in patients who tolerated carbamazepine.

The findings suggested an absolute risk of 5% in persons positive for the allele (Pharmacogenet. Genomics 2006;16:297–306).

One report from a European drug-related adverse events registry reported 12 cases of Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis associated with carbamazepine. Of those, four patients had the allele, and all were of Asian descent. The others were not of Asian descent (Pharmacogenomics J. 2006;6:265–8).

The HLA-B*1502 allele has not been found in white patients who have had a skin reaction to carbamazepine (Pharmacogenomics 2006;7:813–8).

Over 90% of cases of Stevens-Johnson syndrome and toxic epidermal necrolysis associated with carbamazepine occur within the first few months of administration, so the risk is considered low for any patient who has been taking the drug for more than a few months, regardless of ethnicity or genotype, the FDA said in a statement.

Tested patients who are negative for the allele have low risk, but the reactions can still occur, so physicians should be watchful of all patients. And patients who test positive may be at increased risk from other antiepileptic drugs known to be associated with Stevens-Johnson syndrome or toxic epidermal necrolysis, so alternatives should be considered, the agency also said.

Carbamazepine is sold under the brand names Carbatrol (Shire Pharmaceuticals), Equetro (Validus Pharmaceuticals Inc.), and Tegretol (Novartis). It is also available as a generic.

8. The Funnies

The Perfect Worker

- 1 Bob Smith, my assistant programmer, can always be found
- 2 hard at work in his cubicle. Bob works independently, without
- 3 wasting company time talking to colleagues. Bob never
- 4 thinks twice about assisting fellow employees, and he always
- 5 finishes given assignments on time. Often he takes extended

6 measures to complete his work, sometimes skipping coffee
7 breaks. Bob is a dedicated individual who has absolutely no
8 vanity in spite of his high accomplishments and profound
9 knowledge in his field. I firmly believe that Bob can be
10 classed as a high-caliber employee, the type which cannot be
11 dispensed with. Consequently, I duly recommend that Bob be
12 promoted to executive management, and a proposal will be
13 executed as soon as possible.

Addendum:

That idiot was standing over my shoulder while I wrote the report sent to you earlier today. Kindly re-read only the odd numbered lines.

Source: <http://www.jokes2go.com/>

I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "Where's the self-help section?"

She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.

Is there another word for synonym?

Isn't it a bit unnerving that doctors call what they do practice?"

What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?

If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is he homeless or naked?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

How do they get the deer to cross at that yellow road sign?

Is it true that cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?

What was the best thing before sliced bread?

One nice thing about egotists: they don't talk about other people.

Does the Little Mermaid wear an algebra?

If you ate pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?

If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?

Why are hemorrhoids called "hemorrhoids" instead of "asteroids"?

How do blind people know when they are done wiping?

Where are we going? And what's with this hand basket?

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elin@ingenious.com. Thank you. To unsubscribe, see instructions at end of newsletter.

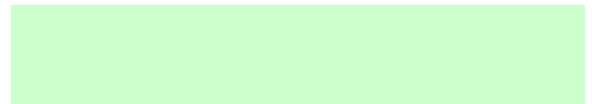


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大同小学 罗思杭 《世界儿童一家亲》