

Gulfcoast Chinese-American Association (GCAA) Newsletter

Issue September – October 2009 - Released on September 03, 2009

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Highlights of this issue

Note: Best viewed in “Web layout” view. From the tool bar, go to View and select “Web layout” instead of “Print layout”

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- . – Section 2, Relief for Typhoon Morakot Victims
- . – Section 3, Feature Articles and Helpful Info

1. Schedule of GCAA Activities --- **Mark your Calendar!!**

2009 GCAA Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

You are cordially invited to join us in the celebration of the annual Mid-Autumn Festival hosted by the Gulfcoast Chinese American Association.

Time

4:00 pm-7:00 pm, Sunday, October 4, 2009 (Chinese Lunar Calendar: 16th day of the 8th month, the previous day being the Mid-Autumn Day)

Location

Twin Lakes Park (6700 Clark Rd, Sarasota, 941.316.1172)

Attendees

GCAA members, families and friends

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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

Food and Drinks

- a. Moon Cakes to be provided by GCAA
- b. Potluck Style (each family please bring at least one covered dish, whether it is an entrée, side dish or dessert. Please be sure to bring enough to feed those in your party)
- c. BBQ (Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided)
- d. Drink (Sodas and Water will be provided)

Fee

Free for GCAA member and their family; \$10 for non-member; \$5 for Students; Children under 10 free.

IMPORTANT: All dues-paid GCAA members will receive a FREE discount card to over two dozen area businesses. Card can be purchased for \$5 each by nonmembers. Be sure to pick up your card. Due to postage cost and manpower shortage, we will regrettably not be able to mail the cards out.

Dress

Casual

Activities

- 3:30 – 4:00 pm Site setup
- 4:00 – 5:30 pm
 - a. Registration
 - b. Games, Face Painting, Cartoon Painting and Photos
 - c. BBQ
 - d. Soccer, teenager and adult group (age 10 up) and kids group (age 10 under).
 - e. Volleyball, the players need to bring their own balls.

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 "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

- f. Karaoke
- 5:30-7:00 pm a. Welcome by GCAA president
b. Dinner and music
- 7:00 – 8:00 pm Free time

Please Bring:

Your family and friends
Sun screen, insect repellent
Your favorite games such as chess, playing cards, basketball, volleyball
Your favorite dishes

*** We need plenty of volunteers to ensure a successful event. Please contact [Sean Kuang](#), 941-538-8525 or [Guoming Guan](#), 941-379-4180 if you are able to volunteer. Volunteers please show up by 3:30pm on the day of the event. Thank you! ***

Saturday Chinese Feature Film Series

Where: Ringling College of Art and Design: Goldstein 5 – see more detailed instruction below.

When: as shown in the following schedule. Please note that show times are variable.

Admission is FREE.

September 12

1:30 pm **Beauties** 丽影倾情
Li Ying Qing Qing (Film beauties overwhelming feeling)
Cinema Hong Kong Documentary Series, 2003. 50 min.

In the 60s and 70s, in Hong Kong’s Golden Age of (Mandarin) Film, Shaw Brothers studios translated popular Chinese culture into historical epics, opera, musicals, drama, erotica, and

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.

Job Wanted

FCC parent of 2 adopted girls seeks employment. Extensive experience as award winning graphics artist and designer and creative ad director for Fortune 500 clients as well as small businesses. Also all around handyman.

martial arts films. In the mid-60s, Run Run Shaw created a Hollywood-style studio-star system, cultivating about 50 famous “film beauties”, many of whose careers are highlighted in this documentary, which includes present-time reminiscences by Ivy Ling Po (Liang Shanbo in *Love Eterne*), Lili Ho, and Cheng Peipei (Jade Fox in *Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon*).

2:45 pm **Come Drink with Me** 大醉侠
Da Zuixia (Big drunken knight)

Director: King Hu, Hong Kong, 1966. Stars Cheng Peipei. 95 min.

Considered by some to be one of the greatest martial arts movies of all times, this film incorporates operatic and balletic influences. A young Cheng Peipei in her second film role plays Golden Swallow, a *wu xia* adept and daughter of a provincial governor, who embarks on a mission to rescue her brother who is being held hostage by a gang of bandits in exchange for the release of their chief. She is helped by Drunken Cat in the guise of a beggar.

October 10

2:00 pm **Assembly** 集结号
Jijie hao (Military assembly)

Director, Feng Xiaogang, 2007. 124 min.

Better known for his comedies and popular films of urban life, China’s most popular film director gives us a serious and powerful film about war, fierce loyalty to fallen comrades, and dogged pursuit of just recognition. The first half of the film, set in 1948 late in the civil war between the Communists and the Nationalists (1945-48), has been compared to *Saving Private Ryan* in the intensity and realism of its battle scenes. The second half of the film focuses on the captain’s dogged quest to memorialize the death of his men in the face of bureaucratic indifference.

Willing to do anything to support my family. Please call 941-266-1882 or email JFlyer2@aol.com. Thanks.

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

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.

Location: Films will be screened on the campus of Ringling College of Art and Design in Goldstein 5, located on the south side of Martin Luther King Boulevard southwest of the Selby Gallery, in area #26 on the campus map available on line at <http://www.ringling.edu/fileadmin/pdf/CampusMap.pdf>. You will need to enter Goldstein 5 from the east side of the building. Security officers are alerted to the possibility of film attendees looking for Goldstein 5 -- so do not hesitate to ask them for directions, or use one of the numerous security call-boxes on campus. The screening location will be moved to the new Academic Building (#31) on the South Campus as soon as that facility becomes available.

Monthly Social:

<http://www.gulfcoastchineseamerican.org/gcaa/event.html>

Our September Monthly Social will be held on the **SECOND** Sunday September 13rd at 5:30PM at
Gold Dynasty Restaurant
4195 N. Tamiami Tr.
Sarasota, FL
Tel: 822-0288

2. Relief for Typhoon Morakot Victims

Relief for Victims of Typhoon Morakot:

you may qualify for similar savings. Give Jamie a call at 941-362-4862.

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

籲請佛州各僑社團及僑界響應台灣莫拉克颱風救災捐款

Dear Friends:

On August 8, 2009, the Morakot typhoon brought heavy rains to Taiwan and caused severe disaster in southern Taiwan. Morakot is the worst typhoons to strike Taiwan in 50 years, and the death toll could be as high as 650. It has caused at least 7.2 billion Taiwan dollars in agricultural damage. Severe flooding and damage caused by Typhoon Morakot in southern Taiwan since August 7 have left many residents hungry and homeless.

In responding to the severe disaster in southern Taiwan caused by the recent Morakot typhoon, the people around the world have shown an outpouring of support and willingness to help in humanitarian efforts. After knowing this horrible disaster, many people in the local community have expressed their concerns and asked how to make donations to the relief effort.

Members and friends of GCAA are encouraged to make donations to help the typhoon victims, in any form, to the people affected by this disaster, as the path to recovery remains long and challenging.

The following is a list of options for sending your donations:

1. MOFA of The R.O.C. (Taiwan) Establishes Morakot Disaster Relief Fund

Donations may be given through the following account:

Mega International Commercial Bank
Account Number: 007-09-087816
Account Name: Ministry of the Interior Donation Account
Swift Code: ICBCTWTP007

101
ATLANTA GA
30340
TELEPHONE: 678 530
0840 or 800-888-0208
FAX : 678 530 0768
Email: toni.liang@att.net

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, Jing Ma
jing_ma@hotmail.com

Matters relating to GCAA programs
Jason Guan
guanguoming@yahoo.com, 941-379-4180

Matters relating to membership and how to join VP of Membership,
May Thomas
Co1076@yahoo.com , 941-322-9220
Co-Director of Membership,
Linda

2. Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Miami Establishes Morakot Relief Fund for Disaster Victims

Interested donors may send checks to its TECO-Miami office, for which they will be given a tax deduction receipt.

Donation details are as follow:

a. Make check payable to: TECO-Miami 88

b. Send check to:

TECO-Miami 88
2333 Ponce De Leon Blvd, Suite 610
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Phone: (305) 443-8917
Fax: (305) 442-6054

c. Please provide your name (in Chinese and English), telephone number, and address for a donation receipt via mail.

3. **The Red Cross Society of The R.O.C. (Taiwan) accepts donations online** at: <http://web.redcross.org.tw/>

(Please note that GCAA and its Board provide the above information as a public service and in doing so does not intend to endorse any of the organizations listed above or to provide any tax advice in connection with any donation you may be interested in making.)

Board of GCAA

Fung elfunkkee@verizon.net; 941 918-8505

Matters relating to monthly socials
Irene Leung,
Secretary irenel@post.com
, 646-251-7714

GCAA website
www.GulfcoastChineseAmerican.org
Barry Zhang,
WebMaster: bzhang@comcast.net
Asst. WebMaster John
Zhu juntaozhu15@yahoo.com

Questions about monthly Chinese movie series:
Director of: Dr. Carolyn
Bloomer,
cmbloomer@comcast.net
(941) 351-0995

Other issues:
Dr. Sean Kuang,
President xkuang1@lsu.edu
, 941-538-8525

How to unsubscribe to this Newsletter:

Please send email to elin@ingenious.com or libinh@linkingbt.com
Write "Unsubscribe to

*** Special thanks to our Board Member Irene Leung for her generous contribution to the preparation of the above letter. ***

3. Feature Articles and Helpful Info

[APIAVote Now Accepting Applications for Interns in Its D.C. Office](#)

APIAVote is now accepting applications for interns in the Washington, D.C. office. The APIAVote Internship Program strives to encourage and cultivate young AAPI student leaders to explore a career in the public sector or the political arena. This internship program will also provide hands on experience and training on how to organize and implement civic engagement activities to increase the participation of AAPIs in the electoral process.

[Download the application form. \(.pdf\)](#)

General Internship - Year-round

The internship program is tailored per organizational needs and intern skills. Interns may work on any of the following areas: Communications/Technology (new media and traditional), Field (working with APIAVote partners in field campaigns), Policy (research and advocate for policy recommendations), Training (Norman Y. Mineta Leadership Training Institute), or Youth (engaging and organizing our youth coalitions.)

Requirements:

GCAA Newsletter” in subject box. Your email address will be promptly removed from the list of ALL GCAA newsletters and other electronic notifications.

- College or graduate student
- Oral and written communication skills
- Dedicated to promoting civic participation of AAPIs in the electoral and public policy processes

Applications must include:

- Application form
- Resume including Education, Work Experience, Political Experience, Extracurricular Activities, Awards/Honors
- Copy of most current academic transcript
- One page typed essay on your interest in the internship program and describe "What does civic engagement meant to you?"
- Two letters of reference

Send your complete application via e-mail or snail mail to: APIAVote Attn: Alvina Yeh
1666 K St NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20006. alvina@apiavote.org

Deadlines: Rolling Deadline - Fall, Winter & Spring Internships

New Scholarship Directory for Asian American and Pacific Islander Students

As the pressures of the economy place financial obstacles to Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities, State Farm®, OCA, the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL), and the Asian American Studies Program at University of Maryland (AASST) collaborated to present the *2009-2011 National Directory of Scholarships, Internships, and Fellowships for Asian American and Pacific Islander Students*.

According to Camden Lee, an OCA intern and University of Maryland student, the directory is "an amazing resource that provides opportunities that I never even knew about." Available at OCA & JACL events and online at www.aast.umd.edu, this one of a kind Directory includes information and resources for AAPI students and their families.

“State Farm is pleased to offer this publication to assist students and parents make informed decisions about higher education. Our commitment to education excellence for all students is a top priority as we help build safer, stronger, better-educated communities,” said Leslie Moe-Kaiser, corporate public affairs staff assistant at State Farm.

The Directory was formally launched on July 14, 2009.

“OCA believes this directory is important for AAPI students to prepare them to be future leaders,” said OCA National President Ken Lee. “OCA is happy to collaborate with our partners State Farm, AAST and JACL. As a scholarship and internship provider, OCA knows how empowering this information will be for our community.”

“Education and Scholarship is basic to the values of the AAPI family. We are happy to provide this resource to assist our youth gain information and access to opportunities that are often hidden from their view. We also thank our staff and associates for making this possible,” said JACL National Executive Director Floyd Mori.

Professor Larry Shinagawa, director of AAST, said: “The directory is a handy reference that can be used by all students and parents who are interested in finding the financial means and experiential resources to pursue higher education. You will find here a wealth of information, tips, and resources that can help enable students to pursue a quality higher education. The adage that education can never be taken from you and enables you to persevere and succeed continues to be the age-old truth. We hope this directory serves the purposes of advancing educational opportunities to collegiate-age students of APA background.”

For more information, contact OCA Communications Manager Sarah Smith Nester at ssmith@ocanational.org or 202.223.5500.

[The Chinese Consulate-General in Houston Plans to Visit Miami in November 2009](#)

中国驻休斯敦总领馆证件组拟 11 月赴迈阿密现场办公, 受理中国护照的换 (补) 发及旅行证申请

As announced in a March 20, 2009 notice (in Chinese) posted at the website of the Chinese Consulate-General in Houston, the Consulate intends to send some staff to visit Miami in November to accept passport renewal and other applications. Folks in neighboring areas who need to renew or replace their PRC passports should check the consulate's website for more detailed information to be posted there.

H1N1 Flu Linked to Neurologic Complications in Children

Children with flulike symptoms and unexplained seizures or mental changes should be tested for H1N1 influenza, says a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report, published in the July 24 issue of the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*. It suggests that patients may benefit from prompt treatment with antivirals.

Concern was first sparked in May, when the Dallas County Department of Health and Human Services reported 4 children with neurologic complications associated with H1N1 flu.

Patients were aged 7 to 17 years and were admitted with flulike symptoms and seizures or altered mental status. In all 4 patients, clinicians detected H1N1 viral RNA in nasopharyngeal specimens, but not in cerebrospinal fluid. Three patients had abnormal electroencephalograms.

All patients received the antiviral oseltamivir and 3 received rimantadine. The patients fully recovered and had no neurologic sequelae at discharge.

Patients Fully Recovered

According to the CDC, just like with the seasonal flu, neurologic complications can occur

after respiratory-tract infection with H1N1. Considering that clusters of influenza-associated encephalopathy in children have been reported during previous community outbreaks of seasonal flu and that children appear to be infected with H1N1 more frequently than adults, officials anticipate that additional neurologic complications are likely to be reported as the pandemic continues.

The CDC recommends that healthcare providers also consider a diagnosis of Reye's syndrome in patients with viral illness and altered mental status. Clinicians should not administer salicylates or salicylate-containing products to children with influenza or other viral infections because this may also increase the risk for Reye's syndrome.

The CDC recommends that all children at least 6 months of age receive annual seasonal influenza vaccinations to prevent illness and complications from infection. No vaccination against H1N1 influenza is currently available.

The above report is from MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2009; 58; 773-778.

Too Much Radiation From Medical Imaging?

Did you know that a CT scan (for example, that of the abdomen) can expose you to the same amount of radiation as 75-100 chest x-rays? As many as 4 million adults in the U.S. under the age of 65 are being exposed to high, potentially cancer-causing levels of radiation from medical imaging tests of unproven value, according to a new government-funded study. See article written by Salynn Boyles that was published by WebMD on Aug. 26, 2009. The whole article can be accessed at <http://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/news/20090826/too-much-radiation-from-medical-imaging>.

Dance of Love – How Strong Spirit Conquers Physical Limitations

Please read the story first and then click on the link at the bottom. Enjoy the awesome

video of two dedicated Chinese Dancers!

The lady in her 30s was a dancer and was trained as one since she was a little girl. Later she got into some kind of accident and lost her entire left arm. She was depressed for a few years. It seemed that someone asked her to coach a Children's dancing group. From that point on, she realized she could not forget dancing. She still loved to dance. She wanted to dance again. So she started to do some of her old routines. But by her losing an arm, she also lost her balance. It took a while before she could even making simple turns and spins without falling. Eventually she got it.

Then she heard some guy in his 20s had lost a leg in an accident. This guy also fell into the usual denial, depression and anger type of emotional roller coaster. She looked him up (seemingly he was from a different Province) and persuaded him to dance with her. He had never danced. And to dance with one leg? Are you joking with me? No way he says. But she didn't give up. He reluctantly agreed. "I have nothing else to do anyway." She started to teach him dancing 101. The two broke up a few times because the guy had no concept of using muscle, control his body, and a few other basic things about dancing. When she became frustrated and lost patience with him, he would walk out.

Eventually they came back together and started training. They hired a choreographer to design routines for them. She would fly high (held by him) with both arms (a sleeve for an arm) flying in the air. He could bend horizontally supported by one leg and she leaning on him, etc. They danced beautifully and they legitimately beat others in the competition.

I would like to share with you this most magnificent and touching performance I have ever seen! It is a living proof that strong spirit can conquer any physical limitations! Watch the clip below.

CLICK BELOW:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LnLVRQCjh8c>

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