



February 2012

Newsletter

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VCCAA
www.vccaa.org
Language School
[https://
vccls.wikispaces.com](https://vccls.wikispaces.com)
Historical Society
www.vccaahs.org

Newsletter Editor

Lena Ho

* * * *

VCCAA Newsletter
P.O. Box 806
Camarillo, CA 93011-0806

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Greetings from the President

Happy Chinese New Year, Members and Sponsors!

The Christmas Party held on Sat., Dec. 10, 2011, was an outstanding success. Over 200 members, families and friends enjoyed fellowship with one another. The entrées and shared entrées were most scrumptious. Performances by our award winning Classical Dance Troupe were an artistic treat; Chinese Language School students and teachers sang linguistically sweet sounds; Thousand Oaks Chinese Folk Ensemble were an auditory treat; Santa was great.



This is the Year of the Dragon, 4710. Dragons are those individuals born in 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, 2012. They are free spirits of the Zodiac. Conformation is a Dragon's curse. Dragons must be free and uninhibited. The Dragon is a beautiful creature, colorful and flamboyant. An extroverted bundle of energy, gifted and utterly irrepressible, everything Dragons do is on a grand scale - big ideas, ornate gestures, extreme ambitions. However, this behavior is natural and isn't meant for show. Because they are confident, fearless in the face of challenge, they are almost inevitably successful. Dragons' generous personalities give them the ability to attract friends. They are most compatible with those born in the years of the Rat and Monkey.



Our Chinese New Year event at Camarillo Constitution Park was held on Sat., Jan. 28, 2012. The program included: Dragon Dance, Lion Dance, Martial Arts demonstrations, Chinese classical dances, and Chinese classical instrument music ensemble. Many Chinese souvenirs were for sale as well as a calligraphy demonstration table and crafts tables for kids.

Next is the Easter Egg Hunt on Sat., March 31, at the Ling Ranch. We look forward to you and your family members joining us.

The VCCAA Board and I wish all of you and your family members
a very happy, healthy, and prosperous 2012!

Lloyd Ho

President 2011-2012

Newsletter Inputs Are Welcome!

The VCCAA Newsletter welcomes the submission of articles, constructive comments, suggestions, or personal experiences that you want to share with the other members. Please write to VCCAA Newsletter, P.O. Box 806, Camarillo, CA 93011-0806; e-mail to me at brt2eyes@yahoo.com.

Lena Ho
Editor

Christmas Party

by Brian Nomi



The VCCAA Christmas Party took place on Sat., Dec. 10, 2011 at the Pleasant Valley Instructional Center (formerly Los Primeros School) in Old Town Camarillo. Approximately 200 association members and friends were in attendance.

Co-Emcees were Kim Wang and David Li. All attendees enjoyed the varied potluck dinner entrees. They also enjoyed performances by Madam Yu-Ling Lu's Classical Dance Troupe – Naomi Zhang, Judy Nomi, Jayme Smarinsky, Jackie Zhao, Laurel Mooney, Lucy Curtis, Monica Lin, Kelly Tebbe, Emily Meschke, Lesley Smarinsky, Jennifer

Leo, Jetta Wong – as well as a performance by the Chinese Language School teachers and students.

Madam Shuqin Zhao led the Thousand Oaks Chinese Music Ensemble to play several pieces of traditional Chinese music, concluding with "Jingle Bells".

The silent auction was a success that raised about \$600 for the Chinese Language School.

Finally, Eric Plambeck came on stage as Santa Claus and gave bags of toys to all the girls and boys.

Thanks to all who attended, performed, or helped with the setup before, during, and cleaning afterwards!!

Chinese New Year Celebration

by Co-chairs Dr. Hillary Ling, Ms. Vivian Goo, Dr. Zeak Simmons



The New Year Celebration was a successful and delightful community event of "We Build Cultural Bridges". Congratulations!

What a beautiful Dragon! What an excellent job that Principal Irene Sy and the students of the Chinese Language School had accomplished strutting the Dragon among the audience!

Thank you Sponsors Vivian and Tyrus Goo for your generous donation in purchasing the Dragon from Los Angeles Chinatown.



And thank you to "Seamstresses" Edna Tanita and Dodie Smith for transforming the Dragon to a grand and beautiful

piece of artistry.

All of you and your devotion to the VCCAA made our Association so proud!

Over 500 people from Ventura County, Los Angeles County and Santa Barbara County filled the Camarillo Constitution Park at a "high-wind" Saturday. Under thundering drumbeats and loudest applause.

President Lloyd Ho joined former Camarillo Mayor Michael Morgan and declared: "Let the Celebration begin!"



Upcoming Event

Easter Egg Hunt

When: **Saturday, March 31, 2012, 12:30 PM**

Where: **Ling Ranch, Somis**

Contact: **Lesley Ling-Sule, (805) 407-7765**

Hillary Ling, (805) 386-4188 (location information)

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is on! Join us at the Ling Ranch for BBQ, games, and the big hunt.

For each participating child, please bring an



Easter basket and 2 dozen filled Easter eggs. We will provide a simple BBQ lunch for everyone and games for the kids. We look forward to seeing all of

you then!

Chinese Language School

by Irene Sy, Principal



The Dragon year surely brings in lots of energies, virtues, joy and happiness. It keeps our Chinese school students busy, bold and courage. It gives impetus to our students' cultural life to share their cultural awareness with the communities.

We had our second Talent and Variety show on Jan. 27. Every student put on his/her 'Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat' and performed well in the Talent Show. We welcomed the New Year with an auspicious golden dragon, had a spectacular Chinese Ethnic Groups Costume Show, wonderful skits, melodious and jubilant songs and a magnificent finale hip-hop dance of Long De Chuan Ren (Descendants of the Dragon). Our students had spent countless hours practicing for their performances under their teachers' supervisions. They enjoyed their Hong Bao (红包 - lucky money) and the dragon souvenir to bring them good luck for the dragon year.

Our students' performances received many appraisals from audiences in the Camarillo Public Library's Chinese New Year celebration on Jan. 21.

Credit class students shared their Chinese language and culture knowledge to help with arts and crafts, and Chinese writing with many children in the community in the VCCAA Chinese New Year Celebration on Jan 28. Once again, they ushered in the 'Dragon Power' with their Dragon Dance and the Hip-Hop Finale Dance (Descendants

of the Dragon).

I would like to thank everyone who helped make our events successful, especially to Ms. Yu-Ling Lu, Mrs. Lulu Chu, Ms. Pingping Shu for lending us their ethnic costumes; Mrs. Monica Cheng, Ms. Alice Ginn and Mrs. Chow who helped with our costumes show; Mrs. Jenny Fung with our food and not least, our vice-principal, Mr. Xiaoming Chen, teachers, parents and students who supported our events; Dr. Hillary Ling, Mr. & Mrs. Goo and Ms. Edna Tanita for providing and making the beautiful dragon so our students can have the opportunity to perform with it. Thank you all! 谢谢你们!

The Chinese school will be having a field trip to the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana for the "Warriors, Tombs and Temples: China's Enduring Legacy" exhibit on Sat., Feb. 25. If you are interested in joining us for this field trip, contact me by email at vcchineseschool@aol.com.

Our credit class students will also be participating in the Southern California Council of Chinese Schools' Talent show in the Taiwan Cultural Center in Los Angeles (9443 Telstar Ave., El Monte) on March 4 and you are invited to come and support their performances.

The Dragon year comes on strong and eventful for our Chinese School. I am sure it will continue to be another wonderful and eventful year for all of us in Chinese School.

Scholarships

by Vivian Goo, Chairperson



The VCCAA Scholarship Applications for children of VCCAA members is available on line at www.vccaa.org.

For family members of the VCCAA, go to the vccaa.org web site, download an application, fill out the application with all necessary supporting documentation such as an official transcript, extra curricula activities and submit the application by the due date of March 31, 2012.

The VCCAA Scholarship applications for all

students attending West Ventura County high schools are available in their respective high school scholarship offices.

Students whose families are not VCCAA members must get their applications from their respective West Ventura County High School.

Two \$750 scholarships and one \$500 scholarship will be awarded.

Good luck to all applicants.

Youth Group

by David Li, President



Hello Everyone!

In recent months, the Youth Group has participated in a variety of events held by the VCCAA.

First, students of various Chinese Language classes participated in performances at the Christmas Party.

These students also performed various acts in the Talent Show, including the "Long De Chuan Ren" Hip-Hop Dance by the credit class of the Chinese school.

This hip-hop dance was performed once again during the Chinese New Year celebration at

Camarillo Constitution Park, along with the Dragon Dance also performed by members of the credit class.

While the Youth Group has made contributions to the VCCAA events, the audience and supporters deserve the majority of the credit, as they are the ones who made these events so successful.

I would like to thank everyone for their participation in these cultural events, and would also hope to see everyone at the Easter Egg Hunt in March.

With kind regards,
David Li

Membership

Directories were distributed to members that attended the Christmas Party event in Dec. Remaining directories were mailed to members.

Those families who elected to not renew their membership for the current fiscal year have been removed from the membership file.

Please welcome these new members. Make pen and pencil entries in your directory.

Chao, Pearl
Yun-Seng Chao
1708 Paseo Maravilla
Camarillo, CA 93012
Tel: (805) 389-6568
Email: ysc@earthlink.net

Chung, Thomas
Julie, Andy
660 Rowland Ave.
Camarillo, CA 93010
Tel: (805) 484-5483
Email: tchungsb@yahoo.com

For membership information and/or suggestions, please send an email to Lloyd Ho at brt2eyes@yahoo.com.

Quotable Quotes

I meant what I said, and I said what I meant. An elephant's faithful, one hundred percent. *Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel (1904-1991); Writer, Cartoonist*

Faith is to believe what you do not yet see; the reward for this faith is to see what you believe. *Saint Augustine (354-430); Roman Catholic Saint*

People are like stained-glass windows. They sparkle and shine when the sun is out, but when the darkness sets in, their true beauty is revealed only if there is a light from within. *Elisabeth Kübler-Ross (1926-2004); Psychiatrist, author*

Do the one thing you think you cannot do. Fail at it. Try again. Do better the second time. The only people who never tumble are those who never mount the high wire. This is your moment. Own it. *Oprah Winfrey (1954-); Television host, actress, philanthropist*

My friends, love is better than anger. Hope is better than fear. Optimism is better than despair. So let us be loving, hopeful and optimistic. And we'll change the world. *Jack Layton (1950-2011); Canadian politician*

The path to our destination is not always a straight one. We go down the wrong road, we get lost, we turn back. Maybe it doesn't matter which road we embark on. Maybe what matters is that we embark. *Barbara Hall(1961-); Writer*

A smile is the light in your window that tells others that there is a caring, sharing person inside. *Dennis Waitley (1933-); Writer*

Real friends are those who, when you've made a fool of yourself, don't feel that you've done a permanent job. *Erwin T. Randall*

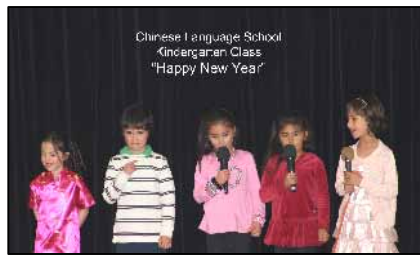
The most important thing in life is to learn how to give out love, and to let it come in. *Morrie Schwartz (1916-1995)*

If you laugh – you change; and when you change – the world changes. *Shilpa Shah (-)*

You're in pretty good shape for the shape you are in. *Theodor "Dr. Seuss" Geisel (1904-1991); Writer, Cartoonist*

Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does. *William James (1842-1910); Psychologist, philosopher, author*

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The Ventura County
Chinese American Association

Dance Troupe

is currently welcoming new dancers!



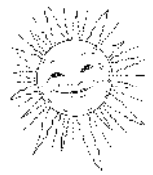
All classes are currently open

Monday	5:30 pm – 5:50 pm (Intermediate)
Wednesday	4:30 pm – 5:50 pm (Beginner)
Friday	7:30 pm – 9:00 pm (Advanced)

Dancers must be at least 5 years of age.
No experience needed. All dancers welcome.

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For more information, please contact
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Upcoming Events



WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	Point of Contact
Easter Egg Hunt	Mar. 31, 2012 Saturday, 12:30 PM	Ling Ranch Somis	Lesley Ling-Sule Hillary Ling
Combined Memorial Day Picnic and Awards & Installation II	May 28, 2012 Monday, 11:00 AM	Pleasant Valley Park Temple Ave. & Ponderosa Rd. Camarillo	Eric Plambeck, Chair Leslie Jue, Co-chair George Ng, Co-chair



Year of the Dragon
4710