

華聯會

**Ventura County Chinese
American Association
VCCAA**



August 2014

Newsletter

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Web Sites

VCCAA

www.vccaa.org

Language School
<https://vccls.wikispaces.com/>

Historical Society
www.vccaahs.org

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* * * *

VCCAA Newsletter

P.O. Box 806
Camarillo, CA 93011
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Greetings from the President



The heat and dry weather heralded the arrival of summer. Those families with young children are faced with the task of finding entertainment or activities for their stay-at-home students. If the young people in your lives enjoy reading, I would like to suggest a recent book by Biz Stone, cofounder of Twitter. The book is titled Things a Little Bird Told Me, Confessions of the Creative Mind. In his writings, Biz Stone discusses the power of creativity and the ways to harness it, through the stories from his remarkable life and career. He encourages readers to set our bars high and create opportunities for ourselves. He also stresses the importance of empathy, altruism, and the linkage of talents in our society for the greater good.

Empirical research has also shown that multilingualism and creativity are often connected. The spoken language is more than a compilation of words and sounds. Languages are intimately connected with the history and culture of the people who speak them. By learning these languages, one develops an understanding of the people who use them. This may help to minimize cultural misunderstanding and racial prejudice. The Ventura County Chinese American Association (VCCAA) was formed for the purpose of fostering cultural exchange between Chinese Americans and all other ethnic groups in Ventura County. Our Chinese school has promoted the teaching of the Chinese language since the 1970s. We grew from a single class to multiple classes of beginner and intermediate Mandarin Chinese classes over the past decades. We welcome our members to enroll their children or themselves in our Chinese school which is slated to reconvene on September 5th at the Camarillo Community Center. Please check our website vccaa.org for more details.

On behalf of the VCCAA board of directors, I wish all of you a wonderful and safe summer. I look forward to seeing many of you at the mid-Autumn festival celebration.

George Yu, MD
President, 2014-2015

Congratulations to the Annual VCCAA Scholarship Recipients!

by Louise Dilger, Scholarship Chair



The four recipients of our VCCAA scholarship awards have all shown their appreciation with heartfelt thanks to our club for its generosity. Melissa Yu and Karina Wang received \$750 each, Sonam Zahrt-Tenzin and Phillip Cheng received \$500 each.

We wish all of our graduates success in their future endeavors.

Awards are based on scholastic excellence, extra-curricular activities, community service, and two essays which are part of the application process. These awards would not have been possible if not for the generosity of our club members.

Please help encourage students with your donations. However large or small, it all adds up. For the prospective seniors, I look forward to receiving your scholarship applications next year.



Memorial Day Picnic by Lee-May Little



The annual Memorial Day Picnic was held on Monday, May 26 at the Bob Kildee Park in Camarillo. As usual the weather was beautiful. Our usual Master BBQ chefs, Leslie Jue and Eric Plambeck, both had family events and were not available to help out. But luckily our co-chefs George Ng, his son in law, Dr. Frank Chieu, and Wil Durham, worked together to cook up tasty BBQ tri-tip, teriyaki chicken, chili beans, salad and all the trimmings. Plus we had summer flavor watermelon as a cool treat. "Mmm".....I said, we had the best lunch in Camarillo that day.

That day also was our VCCAA annual membership renewal day. You could see our lovely volunteer team: Jackie Sittinger, Louise Dilger and Trinity Durborow who were busy with members' name lists and happy to see all of the familiar faces. Wonderful news: we had 5 new families join us on that day. We certainly welcome them to join our big family. Annie Wang and her son Alex were also very busy selling the meal tickets. We really appreciated their team work. We would also like to thank our scholarship recipients for helping out



with the serving.

After lunch VCCAA President George Yu emceed the program, while Louise Dilger, as Scholarship Chairperson, coordinated the scholarship presentations. The Tony Chen Scholarship (\$750) was presented to

Melissa Yu -余卓怡, of La Reina High School. The Dr. Fu-Kuen Lin Scholarship (\$750) was presented to Karina Wang -王熾婷, of Adolfo Camarillo High School. The VCCAA Scholarship (\$500) was presented to Sonam Zahrt-Tenzin of Rio Mesa High School. The VCCAA Youth Service Award (\$500) was presented to Phillip Cheng - 程以諾 of Calvary Christian School. Congratulations to all of our scholarship winners. You have made your parents proud. We wish them the best and continued success.

Incoming officers and directors for the fiscal year 2014 – 2015 were announced and presented to the membership. Administrative Law Judge Kee-Choo Ling swore them in.

In between these events, drawings were held for raffle prizes which included a wine opener, hot air popcorn popper, Napa wine and many other great prizes. Thanks to Stella Ling for arranging the raffle prizes.

I want to thank our wonderful VCCAA Youth Group for their great job and teamwork. And also many thanks to all of you who volunteered to cook rice and help out behind the scenes. You made this picnic and this organization a success.

Hope to see you all again next year!



Upcoming Events!

Mid-Autumn Festival *by Annie Wang*



When: Saturday, Sept 6, 2014 at 6:00pm
Where: Rancho Rosal School
 3535 Village at the Park Drive
 Camarillo, CA 93012
Contact: Annie Wang, (805) 377-9005

It's that time of year for the Chinese to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. It is so called because it is in the middle of the eighth month, which is a full moon. We used to celebrate the full moon by eating fruit and moon-cake while children played with their lanterns and neighbors. Why do people celebrate the moon in mid-Autumn? It's because of a story that happened long ago in China.

On the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar the moon is full, and it is time for the Chinese people to mark their Moon Festival, or the Mid-Autumn Festival. The round shape of the moon symbolizes reunion. Therefore the day is celebrated as a holiday for family members to get together and enjoy the full moon representing an auspicious token of abundance of harmony and luck.

There is this story about the moon-cake. During the Yuan dynasty (A.D.1280-1368) China was ruled by the Mongolian people. Leaders from the preceding Sung dynasty (A.D.960-1280) were unhappy at submitting to the foreign rule, and set out to coordinate the rebellion without being discovered. The leaders of the rebellion, knowing that the Moon Festival was



the rebellion without being discovered. The leaders of the rebellion, knowing that the Moon Festival was

drawing near, ordered the making of special cakes. Embedded in each moon-cake was a message with the outline of the attack. On the night of the Moon Festival, the rebels successfully attacked and overthrew the government. Today, moon-cakes are eaten to commemorate this legend.



Please bring a dish to be shared sufficient for your family and ten-plus extra people. Beverages will be provided by the VCCAA.

Chinese Language School *by Irene Sy*



I hope everyone is enjoying the sunny summer days. Our Chinese school has concluded its 2013-2014 academic year on June 6th. Our next academic year will begin on **September 5, 2014**. Registration form for the 2014-2015 school year can be downloaded from our website at:

<https://vccls.wikispaces.com/>

Our school site will remain the same at the Pleasant Valley Recreation Park District (Camarillo Community Center) at **1605 Burnley Drive in Camarillo**. Classes will meet every **Friday evenings from 7:00P.M. to 9:00P.M.**, and 7:00P.M. to 10:00P.M. for credit class. Please help spread the word, pass on the school information, or disseminate our flyers with your friends, relatives, or anywhere you think might help to advertise our school for new enrollment. Feel free to contact me at vcchineseschool@aol.com if you have any questions. I am looking forward to another exciting year ahead.

We have been invited by the Camarillo Library again to participate in the 5th Annual Multicultural BookFest held inside the main hall at the Camarillo Community Center on Saturday, November 1st 2014, from 10:00am to 3:00pm. We will need students, parents, and club members to help read and share stories in the Chinese culture with children from the community. Please come by to help, you do not need to know Chinese to read some of the books. You are also invited to bring your children, families and friends to share in the experience. Contact me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help.

I look forward to an increase in enrollment this year. Your help to share the school information is greatly appreciated. As for our returning students, please visit our website to download the registration form and mail it in before August 22 to take advantage of the early registration discount. I will see everyone on September 5, 2014 at 7:00pm.



Enjoy your summer !



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whether you are travelling or
want to learn another language

Learn Chinese 学中文



你好!

Ni Hao!
Hello



谢谢!

Xie-xie!
Thank you

Contact: Irene Sy
Tel: 805-482-4765

Email:
VCChineseSchool@aol.com

Time and Location:

Time:
Every Friday,
7:00pm-9:00pm

Location:
Pleasant Valley Recreation
and Park District
(Camarillo Community Center)

1605 E. Burnley Drive
Camarillo, CA 93010

Classes start in September

Come join us:

- Kindergarten** : Ages 5 to 6 ½ (Fun Class)
- Level 1 (beginners)** : Pin Yin pronunciation
- Level 2-3 (basic)** : Pin Yin pronunciation
- Level 4 (Intermediate)** : Pin Yin pronunciation
- Conversation** : Chinese conversational skills
- Credit Class:** High School credit for Foreign Language

High school credit class hours
7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

范杜拉中文学校

Ventura County Chinese Language School
(A non-profit Organization)

P.O. Box 806
Camarillo, CA 93011

Website: <https://vccls.wikispaces.com>

Tuition:

VCCAA Member – \$225 / semester.
Non-member – \$250 / semester.
(incl \$25 for VCCAA Membership)
Credit Class - \$300 / semester.
VCCAA membership is \$25 per family

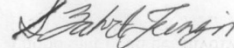
Thank you notes from scholarship recipients! Thank you all for your support of these wonderful youth!

Dear Ms. Dilger and Scholarship Committee:

I am honored to have received your scholarship. I would like to sincerely thank you for your helping me continue my education. It is an exciting time for us students as we start a new chapter in our lives and your support is deeply appreciated! Thank you for inviting me to the luncheon on Memorial Day weekend. I was pleased to meet some new people and say hello to friends I already knew.

I look forward to starting my experience as a freshman at UCSB in the fall. My major is computer engineering. I know that I am going to learn a lot and I hope that I can get involved in summer internships and research. I hope to keep in contact with VCCAA. My contact information is at the top of this letter.

Sincerely,



Sonam Zahrt-Tenzin

VCCAA,

Thank you for the beyond generous scholarship to help my college tuition. Words cannot express how much it will help me and my family. I have enjoyed growing up in such a wonderful Chinese community and am inspired everyday by this organization's leadership, love, and value. I cannot wait to make you proud.

Thanks a million!

-Karina Wang

Dear VCCAA Board of Directors,

Thank you very much for awarding me the Tony Chen Scholarship. I will be attending Georgetown University in the fall and plan on pursuing my Chinese language studies there. I have fond memories of VCAA events from Chinese dance performances to watching my brother lion dance. Thank you again for your generosity. Sincerely,

Melissa Yu

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The Ventura County
Chinese American Association

Dance Troupe

is currently welcoming new dancers!



All classes are currently open

Sunday 9:30am - 11:00am
(Intermediate)

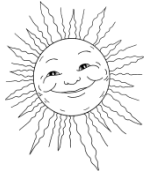
Monday 4:30pm - 6:00pm
(Advanced)

Wednesday 4:30pm - 6:00pm
(Beginner)

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

Classes held at
2031 Spyglass Trail West, Oxnard 93036.
For more information, please contact
Mrs. Yu-Ling Lu at (805) 983-6082 or 990-3866

Upcoming Events



WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	Point of Contact
Mid-Autumn Festival	Saturday, Sept 6, 2014 at 6:00 pm	Rancho Rosal School 3535 Village at the Park Drive Camarillo, CA 93012	Annie Wang: (805) 377-9005
Chinese Language School	Friday, Sept 5, 2014, at 7:00 pm	1605 Burnley Drive, Camarillo, CA 93012	Irene Sy: (805) 482-4765



Year of the Horse
4712