



Newsletter

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VCCAA

www.vccaa.org

Language School

<https://vccls.wikispaces.com>

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www.vccahs.org

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Alvin Little

VCCAA Newsletter

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Camarillo, CA 93011

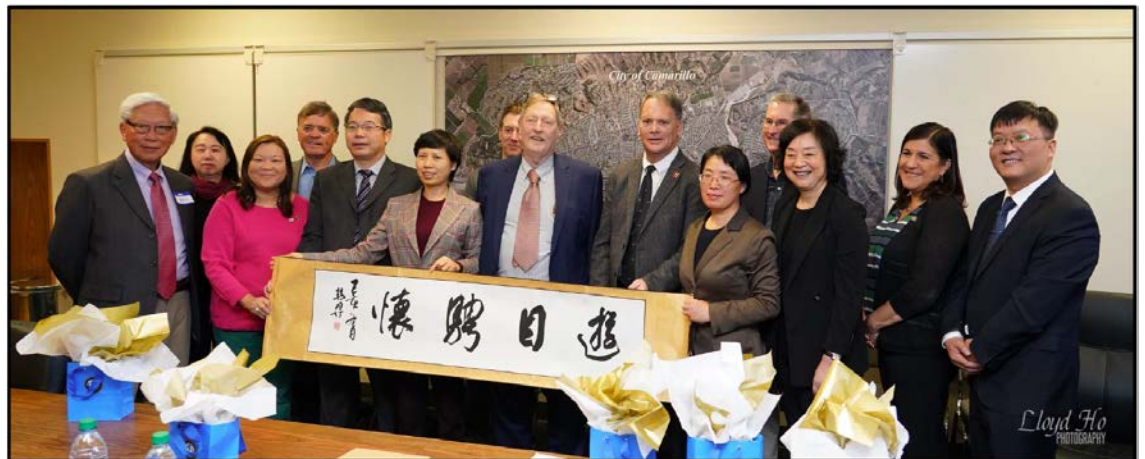
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Greetings from the President

Dear VCCAA members and friends,

Happy New Year 2020! Hope everyone enjoyed the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

We hosted an education delegation from Shaoxing, China on December 5th and 6th. A welcome dinner was hosted at Angus Simmons' and Yong Ping Chen's home, followed by visits to Camarillo City Hall, Camarillo Public Library, Rancho Compana and ACE Charter High Schools, and California State University Channel Islands. We enjoyed lunch at Slate Bistro and had a private tour of the Camarillo Premium Outlet (including time for the delegation to do some shopping). We were able to establish many new friendships from this special event. Photo below courtesy of our photographer Lloyd Ho.



Thank you to everyone who participated in the VCCAA Christmas Party. I hope that everyone who came had a good time. If you couldn't attend, see the pictures from the party in the article below.

I had the honor of helping to decorate and walk the 5.5 mile Rose Parade route with the "American Heroes" float on New Year's Day. This is a very special float which honors all WWII veterans sponsored by the Chinese American Heritage Foundation. We were all so proud to find out that it won the "Extraordinaire Award". I met float riders Norman Mineta, Secretary of Transportation under President George W. Bush, and his wife Danealia, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Major General Gerald Yee and his wife Maria, actress Nancy Kwan and two WWII veterans, Lawson Sakai and Sing Lou. It was a once in a lifetime experience. We are still planning a ceremony to honor our local Chinese American WWII veterans and their families sometime this year.

Continued on next page →

President's Message continued...



Miss Ventura Outstanding Teen Meagan Campbell Smith



Barbara Coulter and I putting roses on the float

Hope to see everyone at the following events: the presentation “Chinese Americans in WWII” at the Camarillo Public Library on Saturday, February 8th by Dr. Russell Low, and the “Lunar New Year Festival” in partnership with the Camarillo Public Library on Saturday, February 29th.

GōngXǐ FāCái 恭喜发财

Grace 廖陳淑芬

Reports from Past Events!

VCCAA Christmas Party *by Ricky & Grace Leo*

On Saturday, December 14th, the VCCAA Christmas Party and Potluck was hosted at President Grace Leo's home. Thanks to everyone who was able to attend and share good food, fellowship, and fun. Santa made a personal appearance to wish all a Merry Christmas. There was a white elephant gift exchange for those who wanted to participate. The most popular gift was a beautiful pearl necklace that everyone wanted. A game where everyone showed the last picture they took on their phone and tell why the picture was taken was also a lot of fun. Who knew that not everyone has a "smart" phone. Flip phones are still useful.

A special thanks to Barbara Coulter, Betty & Shuman Lee, and John Clay Jr for helping to set things up, Lixin Durborow for providing tables and tablecloths, Judge Kee Choo Ling and his wife Katherine for providing tables and chairs; and Ruby Lu for helping to clean up. Thanks again to everyone who brought food and drinks to share. Ask everyone who was there about the killer brownies (all homemade and different kinds and flavors) that were bought by Linda Yen. They were delicious.





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FEBRUARY 17

ADULT EVENTS & PROGRAMS



CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

Saturday, February 29 | 11:00am - 4:00pm

The whole community is invited to attend the 2020 Chinese New Year Celebration on the Library Lawn. This special event includes cultural performances, food trucks, family-friendly activities, and concludes with the very popular Camarillo Lion Dance Troupe. Families are encouraged to bring blankets and folding chairs and enjoy a fun picnic on the lawn. Presented in partnership with the Ventura County Chinese American Association.

CHINESE AMERICANS IN WWII

Saturday, February 8 | 2:00pm - 4:00pm

In this presentation, Russell Low, author of *Three Coins*, celebrates the heroism of the Chinese Americans in WWII. The story of his great-grandparents and their descendants has been featured on the History Channel, BBC Radio, National Public Radio, Voice of America, and is included in the California State Railroad Museum and Smithsonian Museum of American History. A book signing is to follow the lecture.



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Chinese Language School *by Angus Simmons and Shuqin Zhao*

Dear Friends,

Xinniankuaile! Last weekend the VCCAA Chinese School we just finished our fall semester classes and are now on a short break before starting up our spring semester classes on February 2. We continue to have strong interest in our course offerings from the wider community, but it is hard to predict how many people will actually show up to attend until the first day of the semester. During the fall semester we had about twenty-five regular students and another six students taking Master Richard Lu's Painting and Calligraphy classes.

The students (and parents!) all seemed to have a good time. I mentioned parents because there seem to be a couple of students whose parent or grandparents sit in on the classes. When they finish the language class, they move to Master Lu's class together and practice calligraphy or painting. We also all enjoyed a nice Christmas party where, by the looks of the students in the picture above, everyone was having a good time.



We still have plenty of space for new students, so please take a look at the Chinese Language School Spring 2020 registration form on our website <http://www.vccaa.org>, and let your friends and neighbors know about our classes so they can join in the Year of the Rat!

Let us also wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Shuqin Zhao, VCCAA Chinese School Teachers, and Angus Simmons

Scholarships: Attention High School Seniors! *by Irene Sy, Chair*

VCCAA is offering seven (7) Scholarships for college-bound seniors this year. There are three special scholarships which you have to specify for in your application (the Denis Smith Scholarship, Doreen Smith Scholarship, and Little Family Chinese Language Scholarship) otherwise go for the General Academic Scholarships. The Lena Ho Scholarship is open to Folk Dancers only. Descriptions for each are on page 2 of the application. The application and requirements may be obtained from the official website, www.vccaa.org. A copy will also be sent to the College and Career counselor at your school.

Applications must be received **no later than April 1, 2020**. It takes time to send for and receive our SAT, ACT, and AP scores, so don't wait until the last minute!

All directions are on the application. Good luck to all applicants!

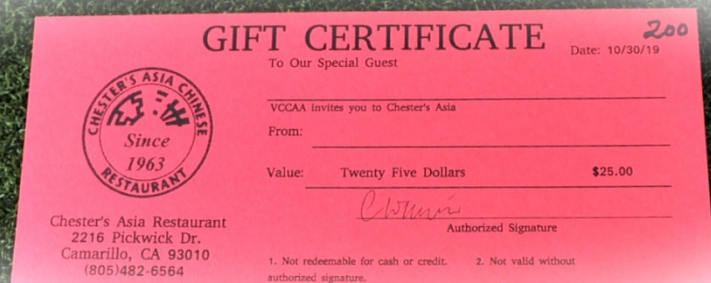


Chester's Asia Gift Certificates *by Hillary Ling*

A big THANK YOU to owners of Chester's Restaurant in Camarillo, Keith and Lik Kwan, and Darrin Ching, for their generous donation of 240 gift certificates @ \$25, for our fundraiser effort in 2020. 30% of the net sale in the amount of \$1,800 is the cash donation to VCCAA. We are most grateful!

I personally also like to thank and acknowledge the support of these 20 generous individuals who had made purchases of gift certificates:

Dr. George Yu, S. K. Leong, Stella Ling, Kelvin Loh, Grace Leo, Vivian Goo, Lee May Little, Barbara Chieu, Shuqin Zhao, Dr. John Lu, Katherine Ling, Alice Ginn, Angus Simmons, Lixin Durborow, Annie Wang, Bonnie Ng, Ingrid Loh, Brenda Brand, Dr. Seek Lau, Richard Lu



Thank you again and Happy Lunar New Year to everyone!

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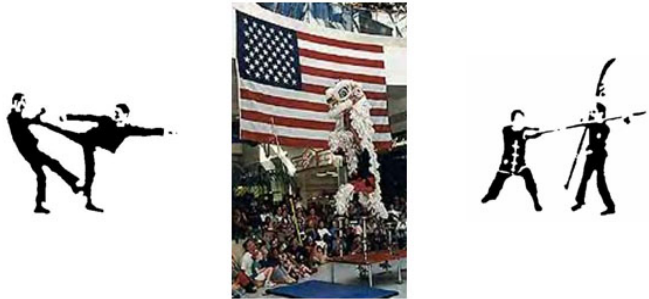
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The Ventura County
Chinese American Association

Dance Troupe

is currently welcoming new dancers!



All classes are currently open

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

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

Dancers must be at least 5 years of age.
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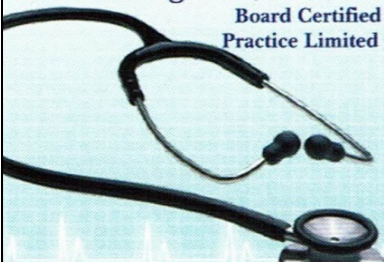
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Professor at 3 U.S. Oriental
Medical Universities
Earned MD., Ph.D. Degree in China
Practiced 26 years in China & the U.S.

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Upcoming Events



WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	Point of Contact
Chinese Language School Begins	Sunday, September 8 th , 2019 from 2:30 – 4:30pm	Boys & Girls Club of Camarillo, 1500 Temple Avenue, Camarillo	Angus Simmons: (805)689-8108
Chinese Americans in WWII – A Presentation with Russell Low	Saturday, February 8 th , from 2:00 to 4:00pm	3090 Morningside Dr, Thousand Oaks	Grace Leo: (805)492-4186 or graceleo88@gmail.com
2020 Lunar New Year Festival	Saturday, February 29 th	Camarillo Public Library 4101 Las Posas Rd, Camarillo	Grace Leo: (805)492-4186 or graceleo88@gmail.com

Membership Renewal Reminder

If you have not renewed your VCCAA membership for 2019-2020, please send your check for \$25, made payable to VCCAA, to P.O. Box 806, Camarillo, CA 93001-0806.



Year of the Rat
4718

Please include your physical address, email address, and contact phone number so we can update the directory.