



# Ventura County Chinese American Association VCCAA



## Newsletter

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### Web Sites

VCCAA

[www.vccaa.org](http://www.vccaa.org)

Language School

<https://vccls.wikispaces.com>

Historical Society

[www.vccaahs.org](http://www.vccaahs.org)

### Newsletter Editor

Alvin Little

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VCCAA Newsletter

P.O. Box 806

Camarillo, CA 93011

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### Greetings from the President

Dear Friends:

As we approach the Memorial Day picnic, I wanted to let you know that my term as VCCAA President is coming to an end. I am pleased to say the Board is recommending a great new slate of officers for the coming 2018-2019 year, including Grace Leo as President and Shuqin Zhao as Vice President. Hardworking VCCAA stalwarts Andy Little and Lixin Duburow have agreed to stay on as Treasurer and Secretary. Assuming the membership votes to elect them, they will take up their responsibilities after the Memorial Day picnic. Grace Leo and Shuqin Zhao have long shown their ability to fill these positions through their many contributions to VCCAA. Grace's work on the Soo Hoo Dinner and coordination of Chinese New Year Programs, and Shuqin's coordination of music and cultural performers for virtually every VCCAA activity over the years. I know you will give the new Board leadership your support, and I look forward to the new ideas and energy that Grace and Shuqin will bring to VCCAA's activities.

For my part, it has been a great honor to serve as your President these last three years. I look forward to remaining on the Board and continuing to contribute to our Association in the grand tradition established by George Yu, Hillary Ling, and Lloyd Ho.

In fact, I have agreed to receive the baton pass from Irene Sy when she steps down as head of our Chinese Language School at the end of June. We all owe Irene a hearty vote of thanks for her tireless work on behalf of the School for many years. I am enthusiastic about the opportunity to continue offering Chinese language and cultural training that is one of the central missions of VCCAA.

Several members of the Board have come together to form a Chinese School Advisory Committee, which offers much-valued advice. Already we have a good number of potential teachers who are volunteering to teach this fall. We will be changing the school time to Sunday afternoon this fall to see if this may be a more convenient time slot, but otherwise the course offerings will largely be the same. One new course will be an English as a Foreign Language course, which I will teach at the request of the Advisory Committee. This fall's class application form is already available on our website. If any of you have any ideas on how to improve our school, please feel free to contact me or other members of the Advisory Committee.

We had another wonderful Chinese New Year Celebration at the Library to welcome in the Year of the Dog. As mentioned, Grace and Shuqin played the key roles as CNY Committee Chair and Program Chair, respectively. Camarillo Mayor Charlotte Craven opened the event, and Council members Jan MacDonald, Mike Morgan, and Tony Trembley, and City Manager Dave Norman were among the large audience from around the county. It was also nice to be able to arrange an in-door performance at Rancho Campana High School and have Oxnard Union School District Board Chair Gary Davis and Rancho Campana Principal High School President Roger Adams join the Celebration.

## Greetings from the President (Continued)

Our fabulous Camarillo Public Library partners supported us in every way during the long preparation period required to put on a program like this one. As usual, Sifu Ling's Camarillo Kung Fu Lion Dancers captured the audience's full attention and made the program flow. Despite the rigors of two performances, all the performing groups spread delight among the audience and the programs went off without a hitch.

This was followed by our traditional Easter celebration, generously hosted by Hillary, Stella, and Lesley at the lovely and bucolic Ling Ranch. We enjoyed ourselves in the fresh air, sampling a great mixture of Chinese and Tex-Mex food, and I saw some real skill developing among the piñata players. It appeared that all our younger members left with baskets full of eggs and goodies.

Moorpark will be holding a Multicultural Festival on May 19 from 10-3PM, on the Historic High Street. I am pleased that there will be a VCCAA booth participating, led by Richard Lu, Lee May Little, and Shuqin Zhao.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Memorial Day Picnic on May 28th, and inaugurating this year's new Board.

All best wishes,  
Angus

## Chinese New Year Celebration!

### Qi Pao by Annie Wang

The 2018 Chinese New Year Celebration Gala was successfully organized by VCCAA and Camarillo Library on February 24th, 2018.

It was a beautiful, sunny day, a perfect day to celebrate this special Day of a year. Around 11:00, The residents of the city brought their family members to the green grass field behind Camarillo Library to participate in all kinds of cultural activities provided, enjoyed the sunshine, and enjoyed the atmosphere of celebration. They also enjoyed the show and the joy of the Chinese New Year.

Ms. Shuqin Zhao, and Ms. Annie Wang, board directors of VCCAA, proposed and actively participated in the organization. The Pleasant Valley Dancing Troupe under VCCAA was formally established at the end of 2017. Many members of VCCAA joined the dancing troupe.

Enthusiastically, the coach of dance team, Jane Anderson who moved to Camarillo just a couple months ago, created a dance of QiPao. Under her careful guidance, the dance team began to practice their first show "Cheongsam (Qi Pao) Show." The Dancers used their spare time on weekends and practiced on the outside stage behind City Hall every Sunday afternoon.



The performance of the "Cheongbap Show" by the Pleasant Valley Dance Troupe was extremely successful and has won lots of praise! The dancers fully demonstrated the beauty, the grace, the variety and the elegance of the cheongsam, Traditional Chinese Dress.

The Pleasant Valley Dancing Troupe will continue to work hard to bring more brilliant performances to the local community.



### 欢乐谷歌舞团

华联会 VCCAA 和 Camarillo 图中馆联合举办的庆祝 2018 中国新年活动非常之成功！

风和日丽，阳光明媚，正是庆新春的好时光，民众们携家带幼，享受着表演，享受着阳光，享受着中国新年的喜庆。

由 VCCAA 理事赵淑琴女士提议且积极参与组织下，VCCAA 属下的”欢乐谷舞蹈团” (Pleasant Valley Dancing Troupe)在年前正式成立，华联会很多会员积极加入！

在热心的，才搬到 Camarillo 落户的舞蹈老师 Jane Anderson 的精心指导下，舞团团员开始大张旗鼓地排练首秀”旗袍秀”。团员们利用每周末的业余时间，在室外，热火朝天地排练着，事实证明，大家的辛苦，大家的努力，大家的时间，都物超所值。

在今年春节联欢会上，欢乐谷舞蹈团的首秀”旗袍秀”的表演极为成功，取得一致好评！团员们充分展示了中国传统服装—旗袍的美，旗袍的婀娜，旗袍的多姿，和旗袍的优雅...

赢得一片掌声的欢乐谷歌舞团会继续努力，争取多为 Local 的民众带来更多的精彩纷呈的演出。

## Easter Egg Hunt! *by Lesley Ling*

What a truly diverse celebration our Easter Party is turning into! About 100 people attended the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the beautiful Ling Ranch in Somis. Some of our guests were brand new to the organization and some were veteran VCCAA families with 3-4 generations present.



The Taco Cart, fresh salads and sides were a fun way to celebrate in the sunshine. This party continues to grow as a community outreach event. This means, members, bring your friends with you next year! We schedule the event on the Saturday of the weekend BEFORE Easter weekend so "Save the Date" for next year. In case your friends ask, please share that this is not a religiously affiliated celebration and that everyone is welcome.

A BIG thank you to the VCCAA and the Ling Family for their continued generous sponsorship. See you next year!

## Chinese Language School *by Irene Sy*

Chinese School students welcome the year of the Dog by making dumplings, learning how to play Chinese Yo-yo, singing Chinese New Year songs, sharing New Year stories, wishing everyone a happy New Year in Chinese "Jixiang Hua", like "Gongxi FaCai", "Wanshiruyi", etc., and collecting Hong Bao – Lucky money from Principal Irene on February 16th, the first day of Chinese New Year. It was a fun filled evening celebration with all students, parents, and faculty. Everyone enjoyed the celebration and festivities and had a great time. This celebration has become one of the key activities every student has been looking forward to annually.



On May 4th, will be our annual Speech Presentation. All students will be presenting their best Chinese speech that evening. It is the most exciting evening of the year where you can hear the Chinese language being spoken by all students in one evening. This is always the highlight I look forward to every year. It is rewarding to hear and see all students take the stage and speak in the language they are learning. Please come and join us on May 4th to see our students' achievements at the Pleasant Valley Recreation District at 7:00 p.m.



Well, this article may be my last to write serving as the principal of Chinese Language School. It has been fun

and joyful serving the school and our students over the past 18 years. I have enjoyed every single minute of my time here over the years, seeing students grow and learn the language and culture, sharing what they have learned with their friends, family and the community, develop a niche to inquire more about their ancestries and culture, yearn to pursue the language in their college years, and become a life-long learner of the culture and



language. I am glad to have the opportunity to share my expertise and knowledge with so many students, and be in their paths of learning while growing up. Seeing them grow and value the language they learned is my BIGGEST pay check for all those tireless hours of work planning and educating our next generation. This is simply my devotion and passion for the language I have fallen in love with and am proud of!



Our last day of school, a culminating day, will be on June

8th. Come and join us for the culminating event where I will present my farewell words to our students and staff.

The new leadership this coming school year (2018-2019) will fall under the wing of our current president, Mr. Angus Simmons. I am confident that Mr. Simmons will lead the school to another height with his new staff. Good luck to all, farewell and so long.



- Irene Sy

## Upcoming Events!

### Memorial Day Picnic *by Lee-May Little*

**When:** Monday, May 28, 2018 at 11:00am - 3:00 pm

**Where:** Bob Kildee Park Picnic Area #1

Corner of Temple and Ponderosa, in Camarillo (by Boys and Girls Club)

**Contact:** Lee-May Little, (805) 484-5222

Our VCCAA Memorial Day Picnic will be held on Monday, May 28th, 2018 from 11:00am to 3:00pm at the Bob Kildee Park Picnic Area #1 (the picnic table area) located at the corner of Temple Ave. and Ponderosa Dr., Camarillo, CA. (next to the Boys and Girls Club). The cost will be \$8.00 for adults and \$5 for children 10 years old and under. Lunch will be served from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. There will be drawings for door prizes.

We will be introducing our scholarship recipients and their parents at this event, and we will hear them share their future education plans.

This is a very important event as we will also be recognizing our sponsors and life members for the year, electing and installing our new officers and officers for the youth group for the club. Members will be able to renew their memberships or others may join our club at the picnic. We would like everyone who is renewing their membership to give us a separate check or cash payment for the membership for the year which is \$25/family. Cash payments will receive a receipt for their dues renewal payment.

Hope many of you can attend our Memorial Day Picnic as it is a time to relax and get to see and meet many of our club members and their families and friends.



### Scholarship Committee *by Louise Dilger, Chair*

The Scholarship Committee is in the process of evaluating the applicants for the 8 scholarships that we are giving out this year. Recipients and schools will be notified when the process is complete. Recipients will receive a certificate from VCCAA at their Senior Awards Night and will receive their checks at the Memorial Day Picnic.

Thanks to all the applicants. It is encouraging to see their achievements. If only we could give scholarships to each one!



### Moorpark Multicultural Arts Festival

**When:** Saturday, May 19, 2018, 10am-3pm

**Where:** Historic High Street, Moorpark CA

**Info:** <https://www.moorparkca.gov/566/Moorpark-Multicultural-Arts-Festival>



Celebrate culture and creativity at Moorpark's first annual Multicultural Arts Festival! Join us for a fun day of music, food, dance, art, children's activities, shopping, and more!

Our very own Richard Lu and Hillary Ling will be demonstrating Chinese Calligraphy.

**BAD Exhibition: Value in Art**

Visiting Artists from Sichuan participating in an Exhibition titled "BAD Exhibition: Value in Art" will be opening May 19th 6-10pm.

Produced by the China-U.S Art Institute, hosted by Art City Gallery, curated by Sophia Kidd.

Art City Gallery,  
[197 Dubbers St, Ventura, CA, 93001](http://197DubbersStVenturaCA93001)  
 805 648-1690

They will also do a talk in Santa Barbara on Monday, May 21st 7-9 PM at the Art City Gallery in Santa Barbara.

Please RSVP through [www.thesquirefoundation.org/events/artist-talks](http://www.thesquirefoundation.org/events/artist-talks)



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**Monday, May 21, 2018 • 7-9 pm**

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**Accompanying:**

May 19-June 23, 2018

*Bad Exhibition: Value in Art*

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mural art, performance documentation, live performance

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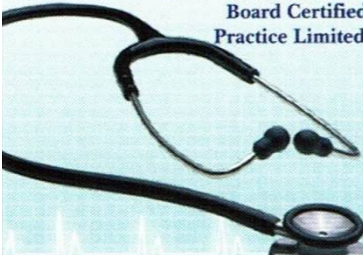


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The Ventura County Chinese American Association

## 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.  
No experience needed. All dancers welcome.

Classes held at  
2031 Spyglass Trail West, Oxnard 93036.  
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# Upcoming Events



WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	Point of Contact
<b>Memorial Day Picnic</b>	Monday, May 28, 2018 at 11:00 am	Bob Kildee Park Picnic Area #1, the Corner of Temple and Ponderosa, in Camarillo, (next to Boys and Girls club)	Lee-May Little, 805.484.5222



Year of the Dog  
4716